

THE PORTAL

A Publication of Balmoral Hall School

Volume 20 Number 2 Fall 2008



Jennifer Jones

Orphanage Outreach

Grad 2008

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Balmoral Hall School, a university preparatory school, educates, encourages and empowers young women who excel academically, possess a passion for learning, set high standards for personal achievement, and who will be self-confident leaders of tomorrow.

The Portal, a publication of Balmoral Hall School's Advancement Office, is distributed to over 3500 members of the BH Family—parents, alumnae, grandparents, staff, parents of alumnae, former staff and friends of the School.

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Assistant Head of School & Head of Academic Studies
Jackie Copp

Principals
Joanne Kamins, Senior School
Tracy White, Middle School
Judith Steek, Junior School

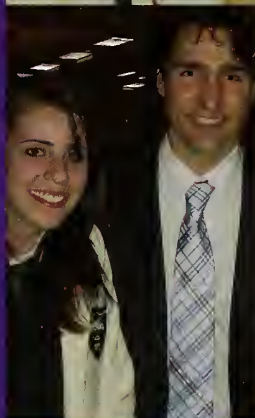
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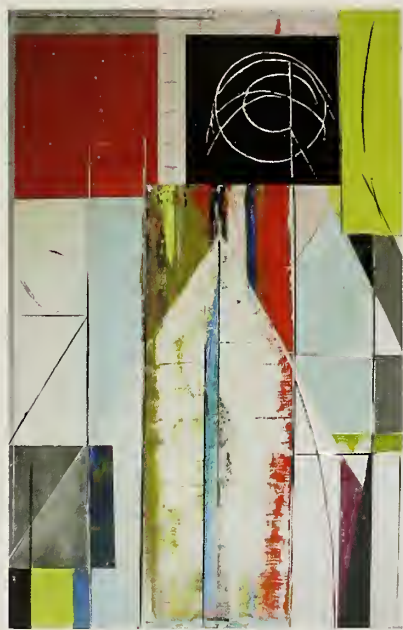
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On the Front Cover: Kristin Shanski '88 was featured on the first issue of *The Portal* magazine in the spring of 1988. Turn to page 36 to see a profile on what Kristin is doing now and page 33 celebrating the history of the magazine.

Unique and Original Richard Roblin Paintings Support the Girls of BH



"MONOGRAM 3" O/A 40"x26"

ROBLIN 2008

BH alumna, Marsha Eve (Dangerfield) Roblin '65, along with husband Richard Roblin, have graciously donated ten original paintings to Balmoral Hall School in support of the Alumnae Future Generations Endowment Fund.

Richard Roblin is a Canadian artistic master. Consistently and passionately, he has pursued his artistic vision while remaining true to the deepest impulses of his soul. Richard's journey as an artist has taken him throughout North America, Europe, the Orient and India. Richard's works have been exhibited and collected widely through commercial galleries and museums including the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. Like all great art, Richard's paintings reveal a deeper experience as you enter into the communication of the heart. For more information on Richard and his work visit www.richardroblin.com

Proceeds raised will be directed towards our Alumnae Future Generations Endowment Fund which ensures support for a child or grandchild of an alumna who, for financial reasons, might not be able to attend BH.

To view all ten of Richard's spectacular paintings visit www.balmoralhall.com. Paintings are \$3,000 each. Hand signed prints of the ten originals are also available for \$1,000 each.

To purchase a painting or for more information please contact Ginny Lechman '98 in the Alumnae Office at (204) 784-1603.

Message from Corrine Scott, Chair of the Board of Governors

Balmoral Hall School has seen tremendous growth over its 107-year history. Considered to be among the very best all-girl schools in Canada, BH provides its students with an enhanced and challenging educational experience that prepares them for a rewarding and successful future.

I would like to inform our community that on August 27, 2008, Claire Sumerlus resigned as Head of School. Since her resignation, the Board of Governors has worked diligently to ensure the needs of BH and all of its constituents have remained our top priority. Acting Head of School, Donna Alexander and her staff have done an outstanding job of ensuring the new school year began with the enthusiasm and confidence that has become a hallmark of BH.

As we embark on a search for a new Head of School, the BH Board of Governors is committed to a process that is open and transparent to all our stakeholders. We take great pride in our reputation as an excellent educational institution for girls and young women.

Ms. Alexander will continue to guide the school until a new Head of School has been selected. Equipped with a strong Strategic Plan, the faculty and staff of BH possess a renewed spirit and a firm commitment to ensure our position as a leading all-girls school.



BH Welcomes Donna Alexander as the New Acting Head of Balmoral Hall School

Ms. Alexander began teaching at Balmoral Hall School in 1995 and most recently served as the Head of Humanities. Her educational background includes a Bachelor of Education, a Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Education and a Master's in History from the University of Manitoba. Additionally, she has pursued supplementary course work in; Guidance from the University of Toronto, Human Resources from Ryerson, Research Methods from the University of Manitoba, MYP (Middle Years Programme) Coordinator training from the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) and has completed modules in Teaching and Learning, Accreditation and School Improvement, Human Resources and Communication through the CAIS Leadership Institutes.

Since 1995, Ms. Alexander has taught a variety of courses at Balmoral Hall School and MacLachlan College in Oakville Ontario and was recognized for her teaching with the Manitoba Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence.

We welcome Ms. Alexander as she transitions into her new role at BH!

Balmoral Hall School Welcomes Back Mrs. Susan Sammons



Excerpts from the Keynote Address

remarked, "You cannot become what you need to be by remaining what you are." As you move forward, you can be confident that your family circle, with its history, culture and values has given you a foundation to meet the new challenges and changes that lie ahead.

Working in an all girls school made me examine the role of women in a way I had never done before. Like the students, I knew about the struggle of women to be recognized as persons, to get the right to vote and the right to hold political office. But I began to learn about the thousands of uncelebrated women throughout the world who have worked tirelessly over centuries to promote economic, political, educational and judicial reform and I gained a sense of pride in their work for social justice. Yet, today, many inequalities remain.

While women make up 50% of the world's population, they still only form 20% of the people elected to government. While the United Nations recognizes 192 countries in the world, only twenty of them have women Prime Ministers or Presidents. In six nations, women still do not have the vote. My response to these facts has been a growing commitment in my teaching and in my life to support equality of opportunity for women. With millions of people facing poverty, war, disease and illiteracy, the world needs the unique talents, perspectives and energy that women have to offer.

Graduates, you have experienced great opportunities filling leadership roles at BH and participating in the myriad of athletic, artistic, academic and volunteer activities available in the school. As women you expect to find the same equality of opportunity in life that you have experienced in school, but I challenge you to remember that many of your freedoms and rights have been won by an army of women who have come before you and much remains to be done. You are women of skill and knowledge, commitment and strength and you have a world that needs you.

You are leaving BH today with the support of your family and friends, and the confidence of your teachers. Take pride in your own accomplishments and believe in your ability to learn, change and act. You are graduates of a fine school and the friendships and memories that you have made here will last a lifetime. Trust me, you never really leave.

Congratulations and best wishes to you all.

I want to thank the Graduates for the honour of speaking today at their convocation. Of the forty-nine young women graduating today, thirty of them shared many hours with me as we studied English and Social Studies together in Grade 8. That year, both classes met together every day for homeroom. The highlight of many mornings was the celebration of student birthdays. We sang Happy Birthday in as many different languages as we could muster: Hebrew, French, Korean, Spanish, and Ukrainian are the ones that I remember. It was rather wild and crazy and often made us all late for our first class, but it was fun! It is wonderful to see you and all of the new faces that have joined your class.

Today is a milestone in each of your lives. It represents the completion of Senior School and the beginning of your preparation for a career. On a more profound level, it marks the formal end to your life as an adolescent and the commencement of your life as an adult with new rights, freedoms and responsibilities. Many of you are already eager to move forward into a future that lies beyond BH, perhaps in a different city or even in a different country. However, if you are like me, you may be reluctant to leave the security and comfort of the life you know and fearful of the changes that will come with new schools, new places and new friendships. But as an unknown poet once



Excerpts from the Valedictorian Address

Shanleigh Thomson '08 Head Girl

I was a difficult child.
"Demanding", "gregarious",
"impatient", "does not follow

instructions" all appeared on my first report card which probably accounts for why I was enrolled at BH at the tender age of four. If you ever get the opportunity to spend time with anyone under the age of six, you'll be amazed at their lack of inhibition. There are no regrets, no fear for the future or consequences for their actions.

I stand before you terrified of what the future holds, scared to death of wearing the wrong thing to my first psych class, afraid that the envelope in my pew has no diploma because of overdue library books. But I think that each graduate has that same child within them. Of course, we'll always have our "BH Family" waiting for us after our trek through the Andes, our third Oscar nomination. We can't forget to thank them for getting us to this point in our lives.

To the students: without you, our attempts as a council would be nothing. Thank you for your willingness to try our ideas. Please, keep our school alive by showing the spirit you've shown us for student councils to come.

To the teachers: as the blood of this school, what can I say—you're kind of essential. It's a hard thing to get a student to want to come to class, but I know there are a lot of teachers who accomplished this feat. Whether it was to just hang out or to listen to the life stories or "deeper meanings behind Shakespeare" in Mr. Kerr's class, the teachers made BH like a visit to a wise friend at least a few times a week.

To the parents: you the beneficiaries are the reason why each girl sits here today, a graduate of Balmoral Hall School. For many of you, the money you have spent sending us here could have bought you a new house instead of the countless hours of complaining, and enough drama to start a soap opera with. Watching us grow from kids in fluorescent, highlighter coloured everything and backwards baseball caps to mature women who can take on anything that comes her way was probably not easy, and being a psychologist, chef, cleaner, nanny, doctor, teacher, diplomat and parent all at once without pay is why there are no words to describe how much we all thank you for being there for us.

Finally, to the graduates: my peers, teammates, crutches, comforters, but most importantly friends. I am so glad to have had the opportunity to grow with you from our awkward caterpillar stage to where we are today; breaking out of the protective, binding cocoon of BH. They say that one flap of a butterfly's wings in Africa can cause tornadoes in North America. If that truly is the case, think about how much windy chaos 49 strong women, emerging as butterflies will cause flapping our wings. I am honoured to have been a part of such an amazing graduating class, full of the most talented girls I could have ever known. Despite our differences, our ability to come together at the end of the year as a graduating class proved that we can do anything.

So as we head out into the unknown, remember that little girl who started her first day of school with no inhibitions, no fear, no regrets and awaken her within you. Let her have a cupcake once in a while, and never forget to take every day as it was your first, not your last. No inhibitions ladies—because outside of BH, there is a world waiting. It's not easy to be green, but we did it!



Class of 2008 Plans for the Future

Saira Abdulrehman

University One at the University of Manitoba with plans to enter Business or Environmental Design. Received scholarships to Carleton, York, University of British Columbia and University of Manitoba.

Megan Alexander

Media, Information and Technoculture at the University of Western Ontario.

Callie Blank

University One at the University of Manitoba. Received an Entrance Scholarship to the University of Manitoba.

Grace Boyd

University One at the University of Manitoba with plans to enter the Faculty of Arts. Received an Entrance Scholarship to the University of Manitoba.

Bailey Bram

Mercyhurst College in Pennsylvania where she plans to study either Kinesiology or Criminal Justice. Received a Hockey Scholarship to Mercyhurst College.

Caitlin Brock

Sociology at Ryerson. Received an Entrance Scholarship to Guelph and the University of Manitoba.

Elissa Brok

University One at the University of Manitoba, with plans to attend Carleton University where she will study Journalism. Received an Entrance Scholarship to the University of Ottawa and Carleton University.

Jenna Brown

Richard Ivey School of Business at Western. Received scholarships to the University of Winnipeg, University of Manitoba, University of Western Ontario, and received the Richard Ivey School of Business Award of Excellence.

Alexandra Campbell

Civil Engineering at the University of Manitoba. Received the Guertin Centennial Scholarship for High Standing.

Lo Kai (Jenny) Chan

Interactive Arts and Technology at Simon Fraser University.

Rachel Cosman

Political Science at the George Washington University in Washington, DC. Received a University of Manitoba Entrance Scholarship and a Huron University College Entrance Scholarship.

Nora Fien

Actuarial Science at the University of Manitoba. Received the Queen Elizabeth II Entrance Scholarship from the University of Manitoba.

Mira Fister-Tadic

Plans to travel to Serbia for a year where she will study Serbian, do volunteer work and teach Rhythmic Gymnastics. Plans to return to Winnipeg and study Social Sciences at the University of Manitoba.

Sola Han

Co-op Honours Mathematical Physics Program at the University of Waterloo and plans to become a Theoretical Physicist. Received the President's Scholarship of Distinction from the University of Waterloo.

Jamie Holt

University of Manitoba Faculty of Arts with plans to study Advertising.

Roxanne Ilagan

University One at the University of Manitoba with plans to study Social Sciences. Received the HOGG Centennial Entrance Scholarship and the Liwayway Scholarship for Leadership Excellence from the Filipino Youth in Action.

Chelsea Ilchuk

Quinnipiac University in Connecticut where she has received a Hockey Scholarship.

Seel Gi Jun

International Business and Economics at the University of Korea.

Kali Kazina

Commerce at the Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba. Received the Special Entrance Scholarship (Board of Regents) from the University of Winnipeg, Entrance Scholarship to Carleton University, the Sprott Scholarship for Excellence to Carleton University and the HOGG Centennial Entrance Scholarship to the University of Manitoba.

Diandra Kennedy

Faculty of Arts at the University of Winnipeg. Received a Special Entrance Scholarship (Board of Regents) to the University of Winnipeg.

Ashlyn Kettner

Psychology at the University of Manitoba with plans to enter the field of Public Relations. Received an Entrance Scholarship to the University of Winnipeg.

Jenelle Kohanchuk

College of General Studies or the College of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences at Boston University. Received an Athletic Scholarship to Boston University.

Hannah Korsunsky

University One at the University of Manitoba. Received a University of Winnipeg Entrance Scholarship.



Krupa Kotecha

Commerce as a Chancellor's Scholar at Queen's University. Received eight individual University Scholarships including a Canadian Millennium Scholarship and the CBC Diversity Scholarship.

Stephanie Lawson

Business at Acadia University. Received Entrance Scholarships to Dalhousie, Carleton and Acadia University.

Yu-Chieh (Jessie) Lee

Commerce at the University of Toronto.

Nadine Lowes

Architecture at the University of Manitoba.

Nellie Minshull

University One at the University of Manitoba. Received the Nick Hill Memorial Scholarship, an Athletic Scholarship to the University of Manitoba and a scholarship from Sport Manitoba.

Erika Mitchell

Will travel next year with plans to return to Winnipeg and study at the University of Manitoba.

Adriana Morales Sanchez

International Law at the Universidad de las Americas Pueblo.

Macy Morden

Psychology at the University of Western Ontario. Received an Entrance Scholarship to the University of Western Ontario and was accepted to five universities.

Carmel Shawna Olson

University One and Science at the University of Manitoba. Received an Entrance Scholarship from the University of Manitoba.

Kyleigh Palmer

University of Vermont. Received an Athletic Scholarship to the University of Vermont.

Holly Penman

Education at the University of Winnipeg. Received Entrance Scholarships to the University of Manitoba, University of Winnipeg and Brandon University.

Kristi-Lyn Pollock

Psychology at Colgate University in Hamilton New York.

Danielle Rubin

Education at the University of Winnipeg. Received an Entrance Scholarship to the University of Winnipeg.

Shereen Samimi

Biological and Medical Sciences at the University of Western Ontario. Received Entrance Scholarships to Acadia, Dalhousie, Carleton, and the University of Manitoba.

Victoria Schaeffer

Entering the Foundation Year Program at University of King's College in Halifax, with plans to pursue her Arts Degree. Received scholarships to Dalhousie University and the University of King's College.

Erica Scharfstein

University One at the University of Manitoba. Received an Entrance Scholarship to both the University of Manitoba and the University of Winnipeg.

Rachel Solomon

University One and Environmental Design at the University of Manitoba. Received an Early Acceptance Scholarship to the University of Manitoba.

Shanleigh Thomson

University One at the University of Manitoba. Received a Millennium Scholarship, a University of Manitoba Entrance Scholarship and a Carleton Entrance Scholarship.

Tayler Van Denakker

Architecture at St. Cloud State University. Received a full scholarship to St. Cloud State University.

Michaela Vickar

Education at the University of Winnipeg. Received Entrance Scholarships to both the Universities of Manitoba and Winnipeg.

Courtney Weinstein

Bachelor of Arts Degree at the University of Manitoba with future plans to apply to McGill to study Law. Received an Entrance Scholarship to the University of Winnipeg.

Kristine Wilson

Edge Centre for the Performing Arts in Los Angeles, with plans to later attend Ryerson University to study Broadcast Journalism. Received an Entrance Scholarship to the University of Manitoba, and an Edge Year Scholarship.

Sarah Zacharias

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry at Niagara University in New York. Received a full scholarship to Niagara University.

Robyn Zajac

Bachelor of Science in Biology at Acadia University. Received an Acadia Excellence Scholarship, including a private room in residence.

Olivia Zaporzan

Richard Ivey School of Business, Huron University College at Western University. Received a Queen's University Excellence Scholarship, an Acadia Excellence Scholarship, a Huron Entrance Scholarship, and the University of Manitoba Guertin Centennial Entrance Scholarship.

Natasha Zloty

University One the University of Manitoba where she will focus on the prerequisite courses for Veterinary Medicine or Medicine. Received the University of Manitoba HOGG Centennial Entrance Scholarship and a University of Winnipeg Entrance Scholarship.

Middle & Senior School Head's Honour Roll

(Overall average of 90% and above)

Khadijah Aldabbagh	Alanna Flom	Gloria Kwok	Hannah Scott
Rebecca Alexander	Jaclyn Flom	Kelsey Lacombe	Kaitlyn Scott
Meighan Ambrosie	Ashley Fredette	Sena Lam	Mehek Shaikh
Isabelle Anderson-Gregoire	Breanne Fredette	Crystal Lee	Bryanna Sherbo
Danica Avery	Layla Freig	Ghaeun Lee	Rebecca Sherbo
Gabriella Balog	Colleen Furlan	Marikka Lee	Erica Siddall
Katrina Barkwell	Josephine Gardner	Yu-Chieh Lee	Shannon Sifert
Valerie Beynon	Talia Glodjo	Yu-Ping Lee	Emily Sikora
Bridget Bicknell	Jessica Goldberg	Emily Lennox	Brittany Simmons
Louné Blom	Stefanie Goldberg	Madeline Lischka	Jane Simms
Nastassja Boreyko	Zoe Goldman	Juliana Loewen	Simran Singh
Katherine Bouchard	Elizabeth Hastings Van	Allison Love	Talia Smith
Jenna Brown	Katherine Hastings Van	Yiou-Hua Lu	Alexa Solomon
Ashley Buckle	Jillian Hedden	Elise MacDonald	Ashley Stedman
Paige Chadsey	Aynsley Hodge	Kennedy Maidment	Caroline Steele
Chelsea Chimilar	Katrina Hoffmann	Madison Maidment	Emily Steele
Meredith Chiu	Hailey Hooke	Sofía Martín del Campo	Amanda Stegmaier
Hye Joon Cho	Chih-Heng Hsia	Quintero	Madison Stewart
Ying Chou	Jia Wen Huang	Kaitlyn McIntosh	Victoria Taylor
Megan Clarke	Alexandra Jessiman	Sofía Menéndez Martín	Ella Thomson
Natasha Comeau	Cady Jessiman	del Campo	Shanleigh Thomson
Vanessa Comeau	Hannah Johnson	Madeline Metcalfe	Miranda Thorne
Rachel Cosman	Keely Jones	Samantha Moreau	McKenzie Trann
Haley Cummings	Sydney Jones	Ericka Müller Morán	Rainah Uhl
Michelle Daeninck	Talia Joundi	Luxmy Navaretnam	Nicole Van Hove
Paige Danowski	Nicole Joyce	Eileen Newman	Noelle Verry
Hannah Darrach-Cottick	Su Ji Kang	Kirsten Nicholson	Chloe Vickar
Demara Davidson	Kali Kazina	Palmer Nowak	Michaela Vickar
Alexandra DePape	Emily Kesselman	Elizabeth Pappas	Fatima Warraich
Gurkamal Dhillon	Yeong Jin Kim	Michelle Pawluk	Gabrielle Warren
Eva Downey	Leanne King	Lauren Peake	Kelsey Watchman
Meghan Dufault	Sean King	Celina Penny	Stephanie Webster
Yasmin Elzayat	Chloe Kjernisted	Erica Prefontaine Dean	Sung En Wei
Stephanie Enns	Bryn Koehn	Jacklyn Prendiville	Elizabeth White
Kathleen Eva	Haley Koehn	Carmen Provinciano	Julia White
Anna Evans-Boudreau	Nika Korpesho	Tatiana Rafter	Kelcey Winchar
Kady Evanyshyn	Krupa Kotecha	Toria Rankin-Friesen	Marissa Woods
Eleanor Fascione	Allison Kowalchuk	Morgan Rathwell	Robyn Zajac
Jocelyn Feltham	Rebecca Kremer	Angela Reimer	
Nora Fien	Eun Jin Kwak	Kaitlin Robinson	

Middle & Senior School Honour Roll

(Overall average of 80% to 89%)

Malak Abas	Shea Gaynor	Nadine Lowes	Erica Scharfstein
Siba Abas	Alexandra Giesbrecht	Caitlin MacDonald	Nadia Schriemer
Saira Abdulrehman	Zara Goldberg	Charissa MacLeod	Kailey Schur
Maryam Aldabbagh	Elda González-Bravo	Shaylyn Maharaj-Poliah	Sarah Scott
Alyssa Ambrosie	Charlie Gray	Celeste Main	Hannah Shiffman
Carleigh Balciunas	Daniela Gutiérrez	Jessie Margolis	Moneet Sidhu
Alexandra Banfield	Casanova	Alexandra Martin	Adriana Sly
Lucia Berlanga Alessio-Robles	Regina Guzmán Quintero	Michelle McFadden	Lauren Smerchanski
Sydney Bicknell	Sola Han	Hannah McKenna	Rachel Solomon
Callie Blank	Christine Harms	Emily McKnight	Hayley Stacey
Regan Boulton	Madison Harvey	Ariana Meyers	Ella Steele
Grace Boyd	Brittany Hergesheimer	Adrianna Militano	Hannah Stinson
Christie Branton	Janelle Hill	Nellie Minshull	Sarah Sytnyk
Caitlin Brock	Alida Hughes	Ana Cecilia Morales	Shelby Szarko
Elissa Brok	Claire Hughes	Bilbatua	Chantol Thompson
Alexandra Campbell	Roxanne Ilagan	Konstantina Nakoulas	Erika Thunder
Emily Campbell	Erika Ilse	Sinhuja Navaretnam	Allessandra Turner
Lo Kai Chan	Rachel Joanis	Krystal Nguyen Hua	Brianna Turner
Tzu-Hsun Chi	Seel Gi Jun	Ksenia Ogolikhina	Ektaa Vadgama
Julie Clark	Amanda Kaufmann	Shawna Olson	Diana Vera
Natasha Cobb	Cody Keith	Holly Penman	Alexandra Wade
Kristin Cockerill	Diandra Kennedy	Leilah Perchaluk	Yun-Han Wang
Camille Dixon	Ji Hyun Kim	Michela Picklyk-Esposito	Cecilia Wannan
Jessie Drews	Kathleen Kopp	Kristi-Lyn Pollock	Courtney Weinstein
Brittany Durand	Hannah Korsunsky	Michelle Prendiville	Nicole Wierzbicki
Tess Dusik	Kara Langley	Michelle Rebeck	Carlee Wilson
Drew Evenson	Stephanie Lawson	Megan Ross	Kristine Wilson
Emily Ferguson	Hwa Jin Lee	Cella Rousseau	Julie Yan
Mira Fister-Tadic	Lauren Lischka	Danielle Rubin	Sarah Zacharias
Hyeon-Seon Gang	Chia-Chun Liu	Anna Savard	Olivia Zaporzan
	Hsuan-Ling Liu	Victoria Schaeffer	Natasha Zloty



2007–08 Academic Awards

Middle School Awards

Head of School Award—awarded to the student who receives the highest average in each grade.

Grade 6

Emily Steele

Grade 7

Ella Thomson

Grade 8

Stephanie Enns

Grade 6 Awards

Alanna Flom

Physical Education
Voice

Josie Gardner

Visual Arts

Emily Sikora

Visual Arts

Emily Steele

French
Mathematics
Science
Social Studies

Julia M. Adamson Memorial Foundation Award—for highest standing in Social Studies.

Talia Smith

Dance
English

Grade 7 Awards

Eleanor Fascione

Jessie May Carter Riverbend Award—for outstanding progress in the French language.

Emily Ferguson

French

Jaclyn Flom

English
Physical Education
Voice

Bryn Koehn

Visual Arts

Ella Steele

Dance

Ella Thomson

Dance
French (Advanced)
Mathematics
Science
Social Studies

Grade 8 Awards

Gabriella Balog

Dance
Mathematics

Bridget Bicknell

Science
Social Studies

Ashley Buckle

French (Advanced)

Demara Davidson

Visual Arts

Stephanie Enns

English
Mathematics (Accelerated)
Physical Education
Voice

Leanne King

Jas. A. Dowler Award—for overall excellence in Mathematics (Grade 6–8)

Member of Parliament Canadian Student Award—awarded to a Grade 8 student who demonstrates a keen interest in community and/or world affairs.

Noelle Verry

French
Physical Education

Senior School Awards

Head of School Award—awarded to the student who receives the highest average in each grade.

Grade 9

Marikka Lee

Grade 10

Rebecca Sherbo

Grade 11

Ghaeun Lee

Grade 12

Krupa Kotecha

Grade 9 Awards

Isabelle Anderson-Gregoire

Spanish

Danica Avery

Mathematics Pre-Calculus (Accelerated)
Physical Education & Healthy Lifestyles

Paige Chadsey

Drama

Megan Clarke

Vocal Jazz

Hannah Darrach-Cottick

Introduction To Oral Communication (Debating)

Gurkamal Dhillon

Mathematics
Science
Tech TV

Colleen Furlan

Choral Music
Dance

Ji Hyun Kim

Studio Art

Yeong Jin Kim

Julia M. Adamson Memorial Foundation Award—for History essay/project

Kelsey Lacombe

Dance

Marikka Lee

English
French
Futures in Business
Science (Advanced)
Social Studies
UK Alumnae Prize for History—for highest standing in History

Sofia Martin Del Campo

Quintero
English Language Learning

Carmen Provinciano

Multi-Media

Chloe Vickar

Dance

Grade 10 Awards

Sydney Bicknell

Multi-Media (Digital Pictures)

Ying (Ali) Chou

Mathematics—Pre-Calculus (Advanced)
Science
Studio Art

Paige Danowski

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

Stephanie Goldberg

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

Janice Huang

Mathematics—Pre-Calculus

Chih-Heng Hsia

English Language Learning

Eileen Newman

Drama

Jacklyn Prendiville

Vocal Jazz

Toria Rankin-Friesen

Intro. To Debating & Public Speaking
Spanish—Grade 10

Rebecca Sherbo

Career Preparation
Science (Advanced)

Eliza Drewry Award—

awarded to a returning grade 10 student with the highest standing

G. Harold Aikins Science & Technology Scholarship—awarded to a student who has contributed the most to the Science and Technology Program.

Jane Simms

English

Alexa Solomon

Choral Music
Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

Miranda Thorne

English (Advanced)
French

Murrell-Wright Residence

Award—awarded to a grade 10 or 11 returning Residence student who has contributed significantly to life in the Residence.

Fatima Warraich

Jessie May Carter Riverbend Award—for outstanding progress in the French language.

Kelsey Watchman

Dance
Geography
Physical Education & Healthy Lifestyles

Julie Yan

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award

Grade 11 Awards

Valerie Beynon

Physics (AP)

Chelsea Chimilar

Choral Music
Dance

Ashley Fredette
Vocal Jazz

Talia Glodjo
English—Language &
Composition AP
Canadian History

Ossama AbouZeid
Scholarship—to a returning
Grade 9–12 student with the
highest academic standing in
Math and Science combined
and is committed to pursuing
excellence in these areas.

Jessica Goldberg
Virgil & Beulah Jacuzzi
Applied Science Scholarship—
awarded to a student
entering her last year of
studies at BH that has shown
excellence in her studies of
the sciences, has career and
college aspirations in the
area of Engineering and has
been a strong contributor to
the school community
through sports, politics or
volunteer activities.

Katrina Hoffmann
Biology

Talia Joundi
French

Julia M. Adamson Canadian
History Award—for highest
standing in Grade 11 History
Duke of Edinburgh Bronze
Award.

Eun Jin Kwak
English Language Learning
Studio Art

Gloria Kwok
Computer Science

Sena Lam
Steven B. Fejes Volunteer of
the Year Award awarded to
an outstanding student in
Grade 6–11 returning student,
or Grade 12 student going on
the university who has
demonstrated exemplary
volunteer commitment.
United Way Award

Hwa Jin (Erica) Lee
Mathematics—Pre-Calculus

Ghaeun (Christa) Lee
Biology (AP)
English—Literary Focus
Mathematics—Pre-Calculus
(Accelerated)
World Issues

Ariana Meyers
Advanced Debating & Public
Speaking

Angela Reimer
Chemistry (AP)

Erica Siddall
Chemistry
Physics
Spanish

Julia M. Adamson Memorial
Foundation Award—for
History essay/project.

Sung En (Marianne) Wei
Leadership

Grade 12 Awards

Jenna Brown
Mathematics—Pre-Calculus
Jacqueline Anderson Award—
For outstanding
sportsmanship and
leadership in sports.

Jas. A. Dowler Award—
Overall excellence in Math
Grade 9–12.

Duke of Edinburgh Gold
Award

Grace Boyd
Computer Science
Spanish

Caitlin Brock
M. Cole Davis Deportment
Award—awarded to a student
who reveals a high degree of
responsibility and
dependability in several areas
of school life.

Tzu-Hsun Chi
Nora Lansky Memorial
Award—for above average
progress in mastering
English as a Second
Language up to Grade 12.

Nora Fien
Calculus (AP)
French
English—Literary Focus
English—Transactional Focus
Clare McCulloch Memorial
Award—for French
University of Manitoba

Chown Centennial Award—
“best all-round” Grade 12
student with average of 85%
or greater in courses which
meet the University of
Manitoba admissions criteria.

Rachel Cosman
Biology

Mira Fister-Tadic
Dance

Roxanne Ilagan
Clare McCulloch Award—for
Creative Art
N. Thomas Russell Award—for
leadership by example

Sheila McLachlin
Scholarship—To recognize an
outstanding returning
student from Grade 6–11 (or
Grade 12 student continuing
on to University) who has
shown a particular passion
and proficiency in writing/
composition.

Diandra Kennedy
Duke of Edinburgh Bronze
Award

Krupa Kotecha
Chemistry (AP)
English—Transactional Focus
English—Literature &
Composition AP
Human Geography
Physics (AP)

The Governor General's
Medal Highest Academic
Standing

Duke of Edinburgh Gold
Award

University of Toronto Book
Prize

Yu-Chieh Lee
Physics
Western Civilization

Holly Penman
Studio Art
A.J. Casson Award

Laura Milner White Volunteer
Award—To recognize a Grade
11 or 12 BH student whose
enthusiasm, dedication and
commitment have improved
the quality of life for children
in need living in Winnipeg.

Kristi-Lyn Pollock
Rosemary Gordon Condo
Memorial Award—for
qualities of kindness and
consideration for others

Victoria Schaeffer
Choral Music

Robert M. Shaw Memorial
Award—awarded to the
student in the BH Senior
Choir who demonstrates not
only strong musical skills,
vocal technique and
musicality but also strong
positive leadership within the
group.

Shanleigh Thomson
Pacific Award—awarded to a
senior high student who has
shown potential as a leader
and a scholar.

Member of Parliament
Canadian Student Award—
awarded to a Grade 12
student who demonstrates a
keen interest in community
and/or world affairs.

Duke of Edinburgh Gold
Award

Michaela Vickar
Mathematics—Consumer
Vocal Jazz

Robyn Zajac
Intro to Calculus
Chemistry

Barbara Honey Scholarship—
awarded to a student of
exemplary character, with
high academic standing,
who shows qualities of
commitment and dedication
to the full life of Balmoral
Hall School.

Elizabeth Patton Memorial
Shield—for qualities of
leadership, dependability,
friendliness and courtesy,
and is a conscientious
worker, taking part in games
and rendering service to the
School in all activities.

Duke of Edinburgh Silver
Award

What Really Matters in Educating our Youngest Learners?



Each year, parents are bombarded with choices about where their children should go to school and what they should be learning. Two important criteria can help direct this decision—asking relevant questions and checking quality.

What really matters in educating our youngest learners as they extend their learning from home to school? Why do parents choose the BH Education as their answer?

“The stronger the start, the better the finish!”*

With the world changing so rapidly, BH has acknowledged the need to immerse our youngest learners in “**real**” learning. Having specially trained teachers and an internationally accredited program, we stress all areas of a girl’s development that will have lasting benefits.

As the little boy found out in the classic, *The Velveteen Rabbit*, the real qualities should be our guiding principles. This classic story dramatizes real life events and emotions in a child’s world. *The Velveteen Rabbit* continues to remind us of these important themes:

- “1) developing positive human relationships;**
- 2) becoming one’s self;**
- 3) coping with a dynamic changing world.”***

Developing Positive Relationships

How do your daughter’s first experiences at school honour these **real** values as they meet their first friends, teachers and the school community?

BH learners strive to be:

International Baccalaureate (IB) Learner Profile

Inquirers
Knowledgeable
Thinkers
Communicators
Principled
Open-minded
Caring
Risk-takers
Balanced
Reflective

BH begins and ends its program with these same time-honoured values as described in the IB Learner Profile. What makes us unique is how we practice them from Junior School through to graduation. These values help us create our welcoming family atmosphere. They are easily recognized in our students and frame our Portrait of a Graduate.

The Canadian Educational Standards Institute (CESI) applauded us on how evident these values were in our school culture. They are embedded into the programme with the youngest learners as part of the Junior School International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme. This can be seen as the children are actively involved in classroom units of study, all sharing a common language of respect and enthusiasm for learning.

What is truly amazing is how these values are demonstrated within our unique mentor program where the little girls all have big sisters from Middle and Senior School. The little girls hug their big sisters whenever they see them. Where else do you see the warmth of a family in the halls of a school!

*Source: www.jimandellen.org/gmuhome/VelveteenRabbit.html



Balmoral Hall School

2008-2009 Annual Fund

Excellence and innovation in education depends on your support. Your gift, regardless of size, has the power to inspire and influence others in their own giving and makes possible projects that simply could not happen without the support of the Annual Fund.

Donation Form

I am pleased to participate in the 2008-09 Annual Fund with a pledge of \$_____

Name: _____

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Postal Code: _____ Tel: () _____

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I wish to contribute by: ☐ cheque ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

_____ Expires: ____ / ____

Signature: _____

Please mail your cheque (payable to Balmoral Hall School) to:

Balmoral Hall School
630 Westminster Avenue,
Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3C 3S1

Be an Online Donor

Easy and secure, online donations can be made at www.balmoralhall.com

If you prefer giving your credit card information by phone, we welcome your call at

(204) 784-1615 or 1-866-DREAM11.





Balmoral Hall School also has its own treasure similar to the "Velveteen Rabbit". All of our girls dream of their grade 12 graduation "BH Doll". This doll is a memento of their years at BH and often accompanies them to university.

How do your daughter's first experiences at school help her discover herself?

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Reading, writing, arithmetic have real meaning at BH helping our girls discover who they are—They "learn by doing!"

Reading—Imagination Thinking Knowledge Play

Teachers build on the creativity of the girls developing their interests and their talents!

According to brain research, girls have the advantage of earlier access to language and learn best as they make connections. This can best be accomplished in our all girls environment. Therefore we have created a unique and personalized Early Language and Literacy Learning program from Nursery to Grade 1.

Traditionally in the early years, the students would only focus on the foundational skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking. We can take the girls one step forward as they engage in large topics of study called "Units of Inquiry".

Reading is not just "learning to read" but building curiosity and skills to "read to learn, imagine and begin critical thinking". The bulletin boards document the girls' learning and creativity in thought as they see the importance of their work. The book, *Alice in Wonderland* is explored both for its rich vocabulary but also in relation to its central idea.

The girls' ideas are documented in writing and pictures and teachers can begin to assess their learning.

Even learning French is actively taught beginning in Junior Kindergarten. Imagine the grade ones having a conversation, doing a play all in French in an exciting French only classroom. The girls help visitors to speak French when they come and visit.

The girls are immersed in the Royal Academy of Dance as they begin at BH, bringing beauty, self expression and the structure of ballet into the classroom.

Art, music, physical education, technology and drama provide additional springboards to learning. The girls explore their questions through multiple perspectives. This promotes both a sense of group membership and the uniqueness of self.

How do your daughter's first experiences at school help her cope with a dynamic changing world?

Building from a solid foundation, BH has stepped into the increasingly globalized world with the introduction of the Primary Years International Baccalaureate Programme in our Junior School. We are the only school in Manitoba to have this unique edge to academic programming. What makes it so exemplary?

This program challenges even our youngest students to think critically, research deeply and develop internationally-minded perspectives on a broad range of issues. Critical thinking is embedded into the program with the girls focusing on questions that involve them in inquiry based learning and real life investigations.

During a unit of study the girls explore the most important idea of the content. They use their own interests and guided research questions to extend their exploration. The classrooms have a unique look and feel with stimulating resources and a team learning approach to problem solving. The communication skills of negotiating, critiquing and comparing become the focus of group work. Questions abound, extending their learning beyond the classroom and out into real life adventures. "Do bears make good pets?"

The girls learn to think globally, and act locally as they become involved in meaningful actions to help themselves and others cope with a dynamic changing world. Asking important questions is the first step in making good decisions.



Middle School Researches Canadian History as Part of Heritage Fair

On April 16, 2008, all Grade 6 students took part in the Heritage Fair hosted at Balmoral Hall School. Each student chose a topic that is part of Canadian history. They started their projects by picking an essential question. That question guided their work and needed to be answered at the end of their project. The students then spent numerous hours researching and gathering information related to their project. Once completed the projects were presented to guest judges.

Following the judging, several students advanced and attended the Red River Regional Heritage Fair which took place at the University of Winnipeg on May 15, 2008. Over three hundred students from different schools displayed and presented their projects to judges.

Balmoral Hall School's entries included Meredith Chiu, Eva Downey, Josie Feltham, Alanna Flom, Josie Gardner, Cady Jessiman, Celina Penny, Kaitlyn Scott, Talia Smith and Emily Steele. Congratulations to all of the girls, and especially to Cady Jessiman who received an award from the Manitoba Historical Society and Alanna Flom, who received awards from both the Manitoba Historical Society and the St. Boniface Museum.

BH Girls Compete at Concours d'art Oratoire French Speaking Competition

In the spring of 2008, several Balmoral Hall School students participated at BH in a French speaking competition. Junior School students Sara Ali, Sameen Kaviani, Lea Chowdhury and Alexandra Trann all advanced and represented our School at the provincial speaking competition held at St. Boniface College.

In Middle School, seven hardworking and dedicated girls spent their time composing, editing and practicing a 2-4 minute speech in order to participate in Concours d'art Oratoire. Ella Thomson, Nika Korpesho, Sydney Jones and Ashley Buckle all advanced to the provincial competition.

The provincial competition was held May 3, 2008 at St. Boniface College. Congratulations to the following students on their accomplishments.

Sara Ali—1st place in the category of Grade 4 Core Extended

Lea Chowdhury—1st place in Grade 5 Core Extended

Ella Thomson—1st place in Grade 7/8 Core Extended

Nika Korpesho—3rd place in Grade 7/8 Core

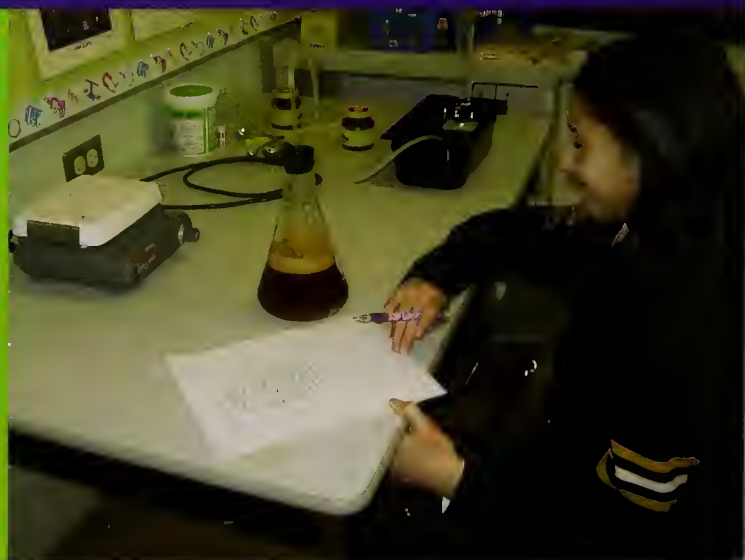
Ashley Buckle—3rd place in Grade 7/8 Late Immersion

Manitoba Schools Science Symposium

Following the Middle School Science Fair where the entire Grade 7 class created projects that were judged by guest judges, five students were chosen to represent BH at the Manitoba Schools Science Symposium (MSSS) held April 24-27, 2008 at the University of Winnipeg's Duckworth Centre. These students spent the weekend having their projects judged by the MSSS judges and special awards judges. Several students received honourable mentions, or bronze, silver or gold medals.

Marissa Woods, Madeline Metcalfe and Eleanor Fascione all received bronze medals and Ella Thomson received a silver medal. Special awards were given to three of our students. Marissa Woods received a Physiotherapy Alliance Award, Ella Thomson received a Manitoba Society of Medical Laboratory Technologists Award and Nika Korpesho received the Winnipeg Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience Award.

Grade 7 student Ella Thomson gathers data for her science fair project.



BH Sets Its Sights on Science



Canadian society is experiencing rapid and fundamental economic, social, and cultural changes that affect the way we live. Canadians are also becoming aware of an increasing global interdependence and the need for a sustainable environment, economy, and society. The emergence of a highly competitive and integrated international economy, rapid technological innovation, and a growing knowledge base will continue to have a profound impact on our lives. Advancements in science and technology play an increasingly significant role in everyday life. Science education will be a key element in developing scientific literacy and in building a strong future for Canada's young people. Consistent with views expressed in a variety of national and international science education documents, science education at Balmoral Hall School aims to:

- encourage students at all grade levels to develop a critical sense of wonder and curiosity about scientific and technological endeavours
- enable students to use science and technology to acquire new knowledge and solve problems, so that they may improve the quality of their own lives and the lives of others
- prepare students to critically address science-related societal, economic, ethical, and environmental issues
- provide students with a foundation in science that creates opportunities for them to pursue progressively higher levels of study, prepares them for science-related occupations, and engages them in science-related hobbies appropriate to their interests and abilities
- develop in students of varying aptitudes and interests knowledge of the wide variety of careers related to science, technology, and the environment

The primary mission of our focus on science was to support the science department in their efforts to provide an unrivaled education for all Nursery to Grade 12 students. With the significant financial support of the BH Parent Association, our goal was to: **a)** facilitate the exploration of useful and efficient ways to incorporate

research on learning science and measuring the learning of science and **b)** find ways to utilize (and develop as needed) effective, reliable, and easily used educational technology. To ensure our successful achievement of this goal, BH acquired the expertise of Mr. Dennis Kuzenko who served as Science Chair.

Teachers worked collaboratively with the Science Chair on integrating the inquiry process into science. The first step of the project was to have students use different types of probes in their labs. The new science labs are centered on girls' ways of learning. Students use collaboration and communication skills, critical thinking and creative design when working with different types of probes.

Example:

Grade 3 students used Vernier Magnet Probes with the 'Opposites Attract', unit of inquiry. Students hooked up the probes and linked to the machines themselves, loaded the software, Go Link! and collected data, which was displayed in the form of a graph. They used the Scientific Method to structure their inquiries incorporating vocabulary such as hypothesis, procedure and data collection.

Why?

- To expand the use of educational technology within the science program.
- To integrate data-collection and technology so students had the opportunity to explore scientific understandings, reinforce mathematical thinking and concepts, and engage in dialogue.
- To emphasize instruction through experimentation, documentation, observation, analysis, allowing students to become real scientists.

The success of our science focus, supported by the financial generosity of the BH community, has had an unprecedented impact on student learning and the professional development of our BH staff. As science continues to be enriched and enhanced we are now positioned to develop the same focus on Social Studies as we empower BH girls to develop as true global citizens.

Debating News

So far 2008 has been an extremely busy year in the area of debating. Participation is up among students and many girls have been spending their time practising for and participating in tournaments.

Ariana Meyers and Talia Glodjo represented Balmoral Hall School on the Manitoba Team at the Senior National Debate Tournament held in Calgary April 11–14, 2008. The girls never gave up and debated with conviction despite an illness that came up on Day 1 of the tournament.

Isabelle Anderson-Gregoire represented the Manitoba team at the Junior Nationals in St John's, Newfoundland from May 8–12, 2008. Isabelle has this to say about the tournament, "It was a great experience for me; I learned a lot of new things especially for debating and I made so many new friends."

The Novice Jr. Provincial Debating Championships were held on May 26, 2008. Participants from Balmoral Hall School included Kady Evanyshyn, Jaclyn Flom, Kennedy Maidment, Kaitlyn Scott, Hayley Stacey and Ella Thomson. The girls all worked hard and competed well. Ella Thomson received an award for 5th place individual debater, while Jaclyn Flom received the 6th place award. Together, Ella and Jaclyn came in as 3rd top team.

Ariana Meyers and Victoria Schaeffer competed in the Provincial Championships at St. Mary's Academy on May 27. Ariana placed 6th overall and won the opportunity to attend a Debate Seminar in Calgary in October.

United Nations Public Speaking Contest

The United Nations Public Speaking Contest took place on April 30, 2008. Winnipeg girls from Grades 5 to 12 developed and presented persuasive speeches dealing with the UN proclamation: 2001–2010 is the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World.

Balmoral Hall School was proudly represented by three Senior students: Ariana Meyers, Victoria Schaeffer and Talia Glodjo. All three girls not only worked on their own speeches, but served as mentors to Middle School speakers, either at this or another time throughout the year.

The presenters from Middle School included Alanna Flom, Talia Smith, Jaclyn Flom and Ella Thomson. All four girls presented interesting speeches with confidence. Ella Thomson received a trophy as the winner in the Grade 7/8 category. Congratulations to Ella and all of the girls for their hard work and commitment to public speaking!

Grade 9 & 11 Students Learn about Manitoba History through Geocaching

By: Mrs. Lois McGill-Horn

Many Manitobans, young and old, are unaware of the rich history that surrounds them. Many educators lament the fact that both the Grade 9 Social Studies course and the Grade 11 History course have a focus on Canada, but touch only briefly on Manitoba.

Thanks in part to a \$1,000 grant from the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) Local History Grant program, BH will be able to create geocaching activities (scavenger hunts using GPS). These activities will use latitude and longitude coordinates of historical sites in Winnipeg and in rural Manitoba that will extend learning from the classroom out into the community. Our grant proposal combined not only the outcomes of both the Grade 9 Social Studies and the Grade 11 History course, but also the skills acquired in the Grade 10 Geographical Issues course.

The goal of our project is to provide BH students with an interactive, out of the classroom activity that promotes awareness of historical events and sites across the province. The project will not only build on previous knowledge but will challenge students to work collaboratively and think critically while locating each cache and solving the question contained within.

We look forward to sharing our results with you in the near future!

Sean King, Grade 10, learns more about Manitoba History with Mrs. McGill-Horn using GPS.



Athletics

Soccer

Congratulations to the Senior Girls Soccer Team who won the Zone 12 league. The playoff final took place May 22, 2008 and was a hard-fought and exciting win. Following regulation play the game was tied at 2-2. The team went into extra time and a second sudden-death seven minute half with no score. Tayler Van Denakker '08 took a free kick over the heads of her defenders and Stefanie Lawson '08 eased the ball into the goal sealing the game. The team moved on to the Provincials but unfortunately were defeated.

Badminton

The Senior Badminton Team had a wonderful season in the Zone 12 league. Our doubles teams consisting of Talia Glodjo '09 and Valerie Benyon '09; Regan Boulton '09 and Christine Bestland '10; and singles players, Jenna Brown '08 and Jaime Holt '08 all contributed to the winning of the Zone 12 Banner for Girls' Badminton. Special congratulations go to Regan and Christine who represented Balmoral Hall School at the Badminton Provincial Championships in Gimli, Manitoba finishing 5th overall in the province.

Track & Field

Congratulations to the Track & Field Team who won the Zone 12 Girls Track Banner at the Zone 12 Track & Field Meet held at the University of Manitoba on May 23, 2008. The meet was a huge success with medals being won in most events and many of the girls moving on to the Provincials.

High School Hockey

Over the first week of spring break, the Blazers High School Hockey Team was in the thick of the playoff hunt in the WWHSHL (Winnipeg Women's High School Hockey League). After defeating the River East Kodiaks in the semi-final playoffs, the Blazers moved on to face the Shaftesbury Titans in the Division Finals. Unfortunately, this tough team got the better of the Blazers, but they should be commended for an exciting finish to a strong season (their first in the league).

At the league banquet held April 14, 2008, the team was presented with a banner for being finalists in the league. Erika Thunder '10 won the Outstanding Goaltender Award and Holly Penman '08 won the John Curry Memorial Award for outstanding academic achievement, community service and for being an outstanding hockey player in the WWHSHL.



Prep Hockey

The Balmoral Hall Blazers Prep hockey program made a significant step towards being recognized as one of the top 4-5 teams in North American Prep Hockey last season. An invitation saw them travelling to Washington to play in the Challenge Cup which is a heavily scouted event. Strategic coaching by Dean Rebeck and the rest of the staff, strong goaltending and 100% effort from all of the athletes lead the Blazers to within one goal of playing for the gold. The Blazers concluded round robin play undefeated and second in their Pool. They eventually ended up in 4th place, ahead of the Warner Warriors, Washington Pride, Chicago Mission and Dawson College. These are all highly respected teams with strong programs.

The Prep Team ended last season with an impressive 43W-11L-5T record competing against teams such as Shattuck-St. Mary's, the Minnesota Thoroughbreds, Warner Warriors and Notre Dame Hounds to name a few. They successfully competed in and won the Saskatoon Comets AAA Female Hockey Tournament in January 2008 and had a medal performance at the Minnesota Thoroughbred Tournament.

Succeeding On and Off the Ice: Sam Wauer '07 fills us in on her first year at Cornell University.



It wasn't the first time I'd heard it, nor would it be the last. "That's not what it's going to be like at university" and "you know, they don't care if you're late, a due date is a due date". As an incoming freshman attending my first year at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, I can honestly say that I wasn't entirely sure what to expect in my first year academically or athletically. Sure I had spent the last year researching universities, visiting universities and talking about going to university, but it wasn't until I actually arrived at Cornell that I understood what it was going to be like. Am I ever glad I heard those "that's not what it's going to be like at university"!

Originally, my game plan was to pursue an undergraduate degree in Biological Sciences, while undergoing the treacherous path to being accepted to medical school and finally reach the ultimate goal of becoming a doctor. Why? Sciences, biology in particular have always been a strong interest of mine. Combine that with the chronic health issues facing society today and a career as a doctor seemed like a logical goal. But, if there is one thing I have learned while attending university, it is that there is no such thing as a game plan—you require more of a guideline.

I lasted an entire week at Cornell before deciding to change my major, however much of my interests remain the same. It became apparent that a career as a doctor wasn't the only direction I could take and therefore I made a quick switch into Agricultural Sciences. This may seem like a drastic leap until you see that these two majors are not so different after all. Only in its second year as a major at Cornell, Agriculture Science includes a broad range of classes in which students are encouraged to develop a concentration in one or more of animal science, business and economics, and plant sciences. This multidisciplinary approach for a major caught my attention because of the significant biological principles in both plant and animal courses and because of the awareness of many problems it addresses on both the international and local scales in our food system. Agriculture itself is seen in some form just



about everywhere in the world and so concerns regarding the sustainability and ethics of our current practices have nonetheless been raised and are discussed within the classroom. While not everyone is a farmer, agriculture is a relevant and unique subject in that it links everyone on this planet together from something as simple as our need to eat.

Of course, Cornell wasn't just all about study, study, study. Well alright, that's a lie but for a couple hours a day I was able to break free from the books and escape to the rink. Being an overall young team with nine first-year players, Cornell women's hockey had its best season in years. In fact, the team's goals were to secure a spot in the playoffs and have 10 wins by the end of the season, both of which were achieved. This success cannot be accredited to luck, but to literally the blood, sweat, and tears of my teammates daily in the weight room and on the ice. I realize that I am privileged to have been given an opportunity to play along side and against talented athletes and to be coached by such a proficient coaching staff. Although I will greatly miss our graduating senior players, I look forward to the 2008–2009 season with our new and returning players with hopes that we will again achieve our pre-season goals and exceed our own expectations.

Balancing academics and athletics can simply be described as a never-ending juggling act. As a former student-athlete at Balmoral Hall School, time management was a skill to be learned and mastered right from day one and proved to be extremely valuable. I was recognized as a member of the ECAC All Academic Team for maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or higher while playing a university sport.

Where I am today is largely due to the support of all the staff at Balmoral Hall School whether in the classroom setting, administrative offices, or on the ice. I can't tell you how great a feeling it is when I can look back on my first year of Cornell University and say I truly felt prepared. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Balmoral Hall School for giving me the tools I needed to pursue my dreams and I know, they will continue to do the same for others in the future.



Jenna Brown '08 and Jennifer Jones at the 2007–08 Blazers Athletic Banquet.

Jennifer Jones Addresses Athletes at 2008 Athletic Banquet

By: Jenna Brown '08, 2007–08 Sports Prefect

On May 29, 2008 Balmoral Hall School held the 8th annual BH Blazers Athletic Banquet in the Richardson Hall Athletic Centre. The purpose of this annual event is to recognize and celebrate the participation and accomplishments of our fine school athletes.

Each year we feature a guest speaker, and this year we were excited to have Winnipeg's own, 2008 World Women's Curling Champion and 2008 Canadian Scotties Tournament of Hearts Curling Champion, Canadian Curling Skip—Jennifer Jones.

Ms. Jones, presently a lawyer with Wellington West, spoke to a crowd of just over 180 athletes and parents about the sacrifices and commitment required to be an elite athlete. She encouraged all of the young women in the room to follow their dreams and never give up. She spoke about taking her team and their game to the next level and used an analogy of Tiger Woods. She explained how Tiger changed his swing a few years ago in order to "up" his game, and she paralleled this with how her team spent over two summers in Alberta changing their game and raising the bar in Women's Curling. It was an absolute honour to have Jennifer Jones in attendance and to hear her very inspirational words of encouragement.

After dinner, each athlete was called up and recognized for her participation in athletic activities. Major sports handed out MVP (most valuable player) and MIP (most improved player) awards for athletes who demonstrated an advanced skill set, have shown incredible leadership or who have shown tremendous growth in the sport.

Athletes at Balmoral Hall School also earn participation points for every athletic activity. Their points accumulate through Middle and Senior School to earn crests and plaques. Major sports such as volleyball, soccer, hockey and basketball are worth three points. Minor sports such as interhouse, golf, cross country, curling, badminton, marathon club, dragon boat and track & field are worth one. Students who are involved in refereeing games, coaching or managing a team also earn points. The crests and plaques are awarded annually at this banquet.

Students who earn the Blazer Crest, Merit and Distinction plaques have dedicated themselves to hard work and drive in all athletic activities at BH. It requires much discipline to juggle both academics and athletics. Congratulations to the following athletes who are truly deserving of this recognition.

Blazer Crest—requires 33 points

Roxanne Illagan
Ericka Rankin-Friesen
Sarah Scott
Madison Stewart
Shelby Szarko
Shanleigh Thomson

Award of Merit—requires 40 points

Jenna Brown
Robyn Zajac

Honour of Distinction—requires 46 points

Jenna Brown
Stephanie Lawson
Robyn Zajac

Stephanie Lawson '08 earned 55 points in total—the highest ever achieved in Athletics at Balmoral Hall School. Congratulations Stephanie!

The evening concluded with the Athlete of the Year Awards and the Graduating All-Star Award.

Junior Athlete of the Year—Meghan Dufault (Grade 8)

Junior Varsity Athlete of the Year—Christine Bestland & Michelle Rebeck (Grade 10)

Varsity Athlete of the Year—Kristi-Lyn Pollock & Robyn Zajac (Grade 12)

Graduating All-Star Award—Jenna Brown (Grade 12)



Youth in Philanthropy

Forty-two enthusiastic and dedicated students from Grade 9 to Grade 12 were members of Youth in Philanthropy this year.

By: Saira Abdulrehman, Community Service Prefect, Student Chair of Youth in Philanthropy at Balmoral Hall School, Balmoral Hall School YiP Inter-school Committee Rep to The Winnipeg Foundation

This year in YiP at Balmoral Hall School, we had forty-two enthusiastic and dedicated students from Grade 9 to Grade 12 come out to meetings every Day 5. With the largest Youth in Philanthropy group ever in Winnipeg, we all worked together, and had a successful and amazing year.

As a group, we first decided that our mission statement for this year would be: "Students spreading the love by promoting youth involvement and supporting charitable organizations in our diverse community". We also decided our vision statement for the year would be: "Putting the unity in community". As a group we explored and discussed which values we would like to focus on this year and we decided we were most interested in supporting charitable organizations whose values included abuse, addictions, animal welfare, environment, homelessness, inner city, and disabilities. Once the Values Groups were formed, each group researched multiple charitable organizations and went on sight visits so that they could see first hand what the charitable organizations were like and what work they did for and in their communities.

It is on the sight visits that the girls truly find which charitable organizations they are passionate about and which charitable organizations need financial support the most. Once all the sight visits are completed, each Values Group present to all YiP members; describing their site visits and explaining why they believe a charitable organization deserves a grant and what they would use the funds for. This experience taught us how to work together in a large group; communicating effectively, acting respectfully, and being patient—all with the goal of getting our 'job' done.

Being a member of Youth in Philanthropy enabled YiPpers to learn about non-profit organizations in Winnipeg, and about how they, as individuals, can make a difference in their communities as young leaders of tomorrow. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the girls in YiP for a wonderful year and to also thank Mrs. Shyka for keeping us organized and enthusiastic about Youth in Philanthropy. Congratulations ladies, we did an amazing job this year! I wish all the best to the YiP chair and group members for next year.



Grade 12 Students Attend Green Gala

Caitlin Brock '08 and Shanleigh Thomson '08 met with keynote speaker Justin Trudeau at the first annual Green Gala.

By: Shanleigh Thomson '08

On April 15, 2008, Caitlin Brock and I were privileged to be chosen to attend the first annual "Green Gala" at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg. The night was full of discussion regarding the future of our planet, and the ways in which industries around Manitoba and Canada were reducing their emissions. The keynote speaker for the evening was Justin Trudeau who spoke impressively regarding young people's role in the future of our world.

After his speech, guests were given the opportunity to ask Mr. Trudeau questions. I asked his opinion regarding China's carbon emissions in the context of America's emissions, as that very day, China had surpassed the US in carbon emissions. We discussed with politicians and other important members of the Canadian design community our role in the future of our world. Caitlin and I were also able to develop a sense of what other schools were doing to help the environment. Overall, the gala was very informative and we were thrilled to have attended it.



Students Learn About War Child

By: The Grade 12 Western Civilization Class

On April 24, 2008, Victoria Schaeffer, Megan Alexander, Jessie Lee, Saira Abdulrehman and Rachel Solomon were invited by the Manitoba Human Rights Commission to Dr. Samantha Nutt's presentation on War Child. Dr. Nutt was an engaging speaker, with thirteen years of experience working in war zones such as Sierra Leone, Republic of Congo and Somalia. By showing how guns are cheaper than water and that what matters there matters here, Dr. Nutt persuasively argued for young people to be informed and to be part of the solution.

It was much more realistic to hear about war from someone who had actually been in war zones during some of the most dangerous actions of the last decade. The inclusion of personal experiences and a lack of multimedia assistance also added to the impact of her presentation. Hearing Dr. Nutt speak humbly about her many accomplishments made us all realize how much we can achieve in our lives. Being the initiator of War Child, such an amazing organization, truly blew us away.

She recommended that students can get involved by suggesting the Canadian government sign the ban on cluster bombs, provide aid to build schools in war torn countries, and advocate for protection for girls and women from the horrors of rape and abuse. Dr. Nutt reminded us that every time we purchase cell phones, electronic games, computers, diamonds and oil that we may be contributing to the problems. She showed us that there is much to be done here, to impact changes in other countries.

Orphanage Outreach

In May 2008, ten Balmoral Hall School students led by faculty members Ms. Kirk and Mr. Kerr embarked on the journey of a lifetime. They spent seven days with a miraculous group of children in the Dominican Republic at Hope of a Child Orphanage. As a group they took part in programming, teaching English, work projects around the Orphanage and spent quality time with the children ages 2-19.

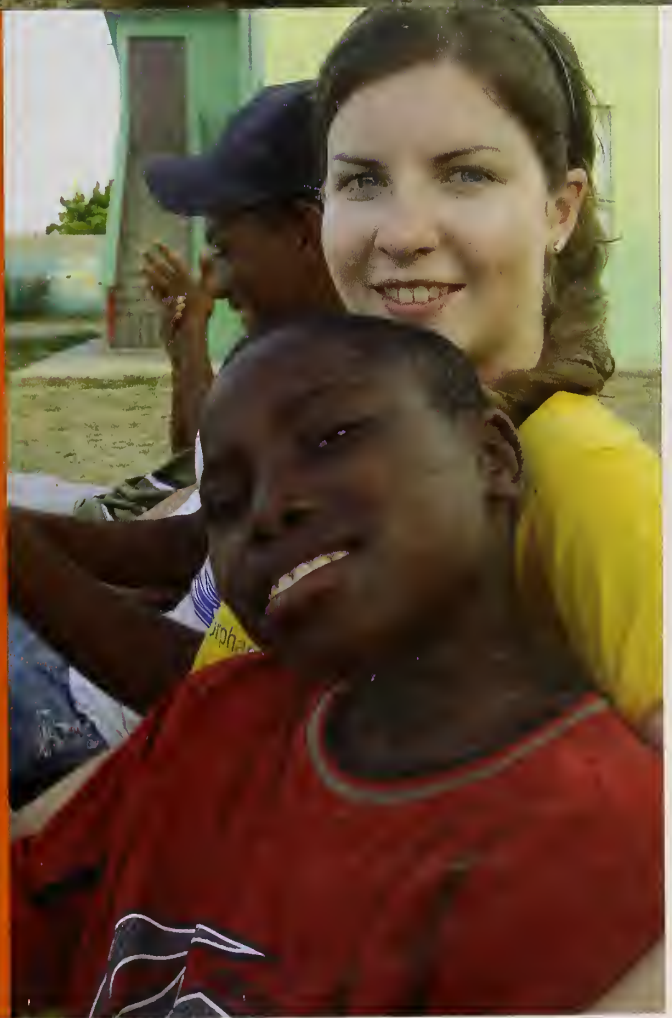
This opportunity provided strong insight to life in a developing country. The people of Monte Cristi showed students the hope and strength that exists in their lives despite their struggles.

Stephanie Lawson '08, Holly Penman '08, Jenna Brown '08, Robyn Zajac '08 and Rachel Solomon '08 take part in a life changing experience in the Dominican Republic.





Ten Balmoral Hall School students travelled to the Dominican Republic to volunteer at Hope of a Child Orphanage. Shown left to right: Charlie Gray, Stephanie Lawson, Robyn Zajac, Jenna Brown, Alexa Solomon, Julie Yan, Jessie Margolis, Rachel Solomon, Holly Penman, and Sydney Bicknell
Back row: Ms. Kirk and Mr. Kerr





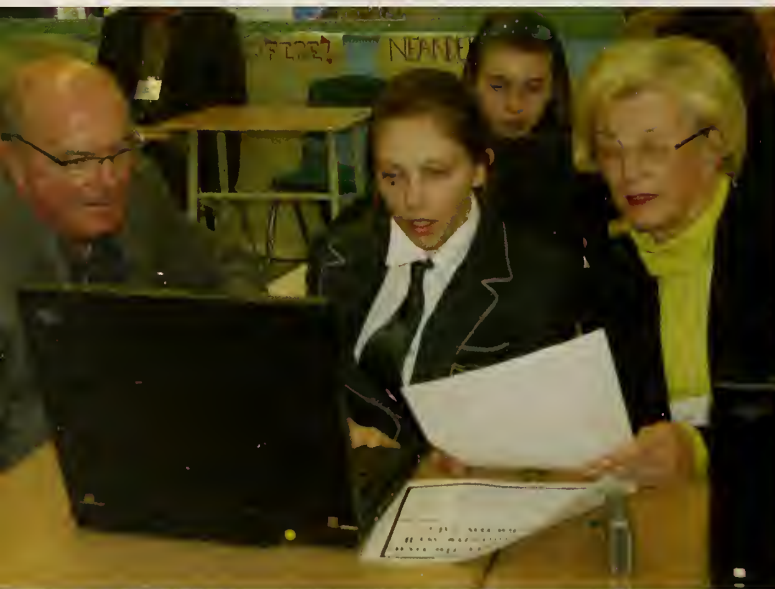
Grace Boyd '08 with grandmother Lydia Guse.

Grandparents

Grandparents and family friends filled the halls of Balmoral Hall School on May 2, 2008. The afternoon began with a special performance in the Richardson Hall Athletic Centre. Guests were treated to songs and dances from students of all ages, and were the first audience for our Junior School dancers. Junior School students have been following the Royal Academy of Dance Syllabus which is recognized internationally and ballet classes have been implemented into the weekly timetable.

Following the performance, grandparents visited their grandchild's classroom where they took part in classroom activities and viewed student accomplishments.

Thank you to everyone who participated. We look forward to seeing you again next year!



Duncan Jessiman, Alexandra Jessiman and Judy (Munro) Jessiman '60



Four generations celebrate: Jennifer Lacombe (mother), Bertha Collett (great-grandmother), Shirley Liba (grandmother) with Madison and Kelsey Lacombe.

Enjoy an Afternoon at BH



Junior School students showcase what they have learned in dance class.



Marley Smith with her grandmother.



Brian Hastings and Ruth (Friesen) Hastings '67 with granddaughters Paige and Katherine Hastings Van.



Sarah Kowall with her grandfather.

The ART

of Balmoral Hall School



Lichtenstein Inspired Art by Talia Glodjo (Grade 11)



Inside Outside Project by Erica Scharfstein (Grade 12), Holly Penman (Grade 12) and Gloria Kwok (Grade 11)



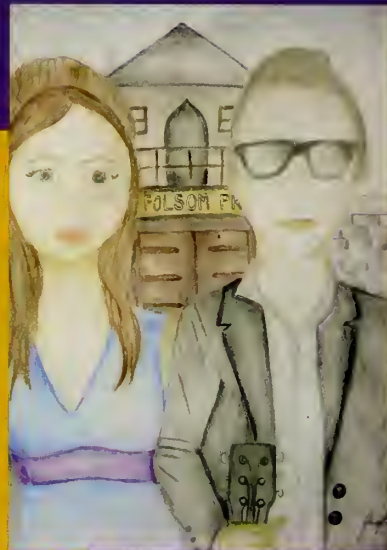
Funky Fish Watercolour by Morgan Rathwell (Grade 7)



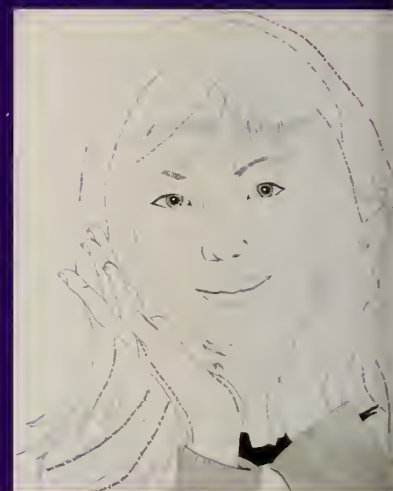
Expressive Masks by Grade 6 students



Memory Collage by Josie Gardner (Grade 6)



Warhol Styled Self Portrait by Shanleigh Thomson (Grade 12)



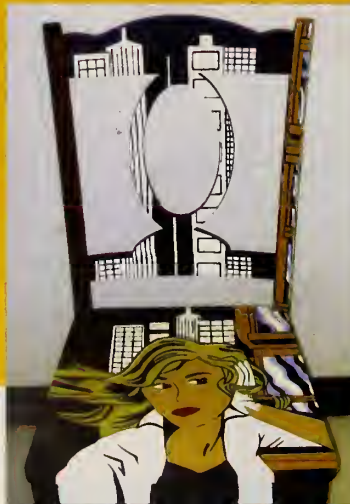
Pen and Ink Portrait by Ji Hyun Kim (Grade 9)



Inside Outside Project by Seel Gi Jun (Grade 12)



Maritime Watercolour by Serena Buchwald (Grade 2)



Lichtenstein Inspired Chair by Holly Penman (Grade 12)

CATS




From March 12–15, 2008 the Sifton Family Theatre was transformed as Balmoral Hall Senior School students performed the musical CATS! The production of CATS was one of the most complicated shows that our performing arts department has ever showcased. The sets were very complex as the stage was transformed into a junkyard. Cats could be seen crawling out of an oven or even in the trunk of a car!

Vocally CATS was a very difficult show to reproduce, especially since the cast was all female. A number of the songs had to be re-keyed to match the range of the cast. A live band was tucked neatly up in the corner of the stage and provided a wonderful backdrop of music. To accompany the music, the cast did a wonderful job incorporating dance into the show.

Thank you to the many students, staff members and family members who assisted with the show.





“Donors don’t give to institutions,
they invest in ideas and people in
whom they believe.”

By: Geneviève Delaquis, Director of Annual Fund

Balmoral Hall School is fortunate to have a team of dedicated teachers and administrators who every year, build on their successes and ensure the programs are among the best in the country. Their ideas and commitment to students are the embodiment of the above quote by G.T. Smith and the reason donors keep supporting BH.

BH is passionate in its belief that the world is a better place when exceptional women take leadership roles. Every day, teachers witness examples of the qualities of leadership developing in students. It takes a true community effort to provide the setting that enables girls and young women to display their many talents and commitment to succeed. BH ensures students have every opportunity possible to grow, develop and challenge themselves to meet their goals, while continually stretching to reach new ones.

To support this commitment to our students, we rely on support over and above fees. Each year, our school community has shown its increased support for the education being offered to girls and young women at BH. Whatever your level of support and wherever you choose to direct your Annual Fund donation, your tax-deductible gift is vital to ensuring the best academic experience for students.

Over the past 10 years, the growth of the Annual Fund has been impressive. Our parents, Board of Governors, alumnae, staff, grandparents, former parents and friends are demonstrating their commitment to excellence in education and to the girls and young women of BH. Thank you!

Annual Fund 10 Year Review



Our goal for 2008-09 is \$300,000. The campaign runs from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. As you think about your charitable giving, consider supporting the girls of BH with your tax-deductible donation. **To make your gift, contact the Advancement Office at (204) 784-1615 or make your gift online at balmoralhall.com**



Refer BH to a family!

Alumnae and Friends of BH are the School's most successful recruiters.

We are currently accepting applications for the 2009-2010 school year.

To arrange for a tour and application information, contact Pamela McGhie, Director of Admissions at (204) 784-1621 or e-mail admissions@balmoralhall.com




Did you know over 1,000
alumnae have already
joined the BH Alumnae
E-mail Directory?

You too can stay in touch with former classmates.
Search by first or last name, graduating class
or region.

**Check it out! Sign up at www.balmoralhall.com
Click on Alumnae and then E-mail Directory.**

Balmoral Hall School
Alumnae Directory
Helping Alumnae Find Others on the Net



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Email Address _____

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Daughter of Alum Receives 1st Bursary from the Alumnae Future Generations Fund

Scotia Fullerton-Collison is looking forward to a great year in Grade 2 and says she loves BH!

Scotia Fullerton-Collison started Grade 2 this fall. She loves to read, swim, play soccer, walk her puppies in the park and when asked what she loves about Balmoral Hall School, she started naming all her friends.

Her mother Nancy Fullerton '87 and husband Cameron Collison felt it was important to find that perfect environment for their daughter—a school where she would feel safe and where she would continue to develop her confidence. Thinking back to her own experience at BH, Nancy inquired about the School and although the fees were a little out of reach, she walked through the doors and immediately remembered how welcoming and friendly the School was.

Nancy says making adjustments to their lifestyle in order to send Scotia to BH is a small price to pay for an education “that has really expanded and grown since my years there.” The Fullerton-Collisons are grateful to the School for making arrangements which allow them to manage their tuition payments and are even more grateful for the financial aid being provided to Scotia this year from the Alumnae Future Generations Fund.

The Alumnae Future Generations Fund is an endowment fund created in 2005 by a group of alumnae who felt it was important to offer financial assistance to the daughters and granddaughters of alumnae who for financial reasons, might not be able to attend. Over the past three years, the fund has grown and the interest being generated is now providing a modest bursary which will help offset Scotia's tuition. As the fund continues to grow, so will the size of the bursary and the number of girls who can benefit from this endowment.

While taking pictures of Scotia at the School, Nancy spoke about the fearlessness in young children and how important it is to foster confidence, especially in young girls. “Fear prevents us all from following our dreams. I want my daughter to feel that she can fly, that she can do anything. Balmoral Hall is developing this in her. Financially, being the recipient of the Alumnae Future Generations Fund ensures the likelihood that Scotia will continue to attend BH. I am appreciative of the support and to every alumna who has donated to the fund for giving Scotia that gift.”

Alumnae Support Growing

The 2007–08 school year saw the greatest number of alumnae participating in the Annual Fund campaign and a high number of alumnae who participated for the first time. Thank you!

Thank you also to our Alumnae Phone-a-thon callers **Roxanne Ilagan '08** and **Robyn Zajac '08** and to the many alumnae who took the time to speak with them in the spring of 2008 about the many activities going on at BH. This is a great opportunity for our students to learn fundraising and communication skills as they prepare for university and involvement with outside organizations.

Together, alumnae support from throughout the world is enhancing the education for young women in Manitoba, our leaders of tomorrow.

We Thank Our Loyal Supporters

Due out this fall, the 2007–08 Balmoral Hall Annual Review (BHAR) will for the first time recognize consecutive givers with asterisks denoting the number of years of consecutive support. Balmoral Hall School is fortunate to have donors who have made BH a priority in their annual charitable giving—some of whom have been consistently making annual gifts for over 15 years!

Tribute & Memorial Gifts

Whether you are looking for a gift idea, want to say thank you in a special way to a current or former teacher, or wish to honour someone special, consider sending your message through a Balmoral Hall School Tribute Gift. We will send your honouree a card, you will receive a charitable tax receipt, and you will both have the pleasure of knowing that your gift is helping Balmoral Hall School and its students.

Tribute gifts can also be used to celebrate births, anniversaries, graduations or the achievement of someone special. Should you wish to celebrate the life of a loved one or friend who has passed away, a memorial gift can be a special way to recognize their connection to BH.

For more details, contact Geneviève Delaquis, Director of Annual Fund at (204) 784-1615.

Thanking Our Grandparents

The Wisdom Circle at Balmoral Hall School was launched in order to recognize the generosity of our grandparents. Annual gifts received from grandparents support the high level of excellence and innovation in education being offered to their granddaughters. We are very grateful for their commitment to our students.

In the 2007–08 BHAR, grandparent supporters will be listed along with the name of their grandchildren in our Wisdom Circle. We look forward to seeing this list grow each year and invite all grandparents to participate in the Annual Fund campaign.





BH says Goodbye to Beth Goldberg

Beth's career at BH began twenty-three years ago and involved fifteen years teaching French from Grades 5 through 12 as well as taking time to raise her family. Beth is now graduating from her official position, and is moving into a different role as an official BH parent and booster.

Over the years, she has enjoyed taking on projects such as trips to Thunder Bay and France, the graduation dinner and dance, and more recently, coaching the Reach for the Top team and charging herself with recognizing the milestones and accomplishments of Middle & Senior School staff. Her greatest joy and sense of accomplishment over the years has come from the many students that she has taught and with whom she has shared not only her passion for French, but also her common sense approach to life in general.

Beth will miss her teaching role at BH, but is looking forward to experiencing the school through the eyes of her two daughters, Jessica (Grade 12) and Stefanie (Grade 11). While she is not certain of what the future holds, she leaves with a great deal of affection for all that the School has offered her and her family over the years, and looks forward to continuing to spend time at the school in a different way.

Keeping with Tradition

On May 21, 2008, Grade 12 students participated in the annual BH tradition of receiving their BH doll from the Grade 11 class. This marked the 32nd year that Grade 11 students have spent countless hours designing, sewing and personalizing dolls for the graduates under the guidance of Mrs. Teresa Friesen. The dolls are made with loving care to resemble each Grade 12 graduate. The doll assembly is one of the most anticipated assemblies of the year and younger students look forward to one day making a doll, and ultimately receiving one.



The Class of 2008 Lifers with their dolls.



Robyn Zajac and Olivia Zaporzan

Victoria Schaeffer, Nadine Lowes and Nora Fien with their handmade dolls.



Members from the Class of 1988 reminisce about exam time at BH during a tour of the school.

Class of 1988 Celebrates their 20 Year Reunion



Classmates from the Class of 1988 gather for brunch.

Members from the Class of 1988 gathered in Winnipeg on the weekend of June 6, 7 and 8, 2008 to celebrate their 20th high school reunion. The weekend started in Aikins House with a cocktail reception. It was the perfect opportunity for everyone to catch up and visit with each other and staff members. On a tour of the school, many of the alums were surprised to see how much things have changed in 20 years.

Saturday's activities included a pool party graciously hosted by Sharon (Steiman) Gorenstein, dinner at Earl's and dancing at a local nightclub. To wrap things up, a brunch was held on Sunday at Glendale Golf & Country Club.

The weekend was a huge success giving the class a chance to reconnect with the school, reminisce and share stories from the past and present. Thank you to everyone who attended and assisted in the planning!

A special thank you to the alums who participated in reunion giving. Funds raised were directed towards the Terry Fulton-Baillie Scholarship Fund.



*Jennifer Buechel and
Marnie Hilland*



*Jennifer (Snodgrass) Gautreau and
Carol (Wintemute) Lama*



Ms. Terry Fulton-Baillie, Jennifer Buechel, Margo (Adams) Larsen, Jacqueline Vocadlo and Darlene (Anderson) Burke.



Members from the Class of 1988 gather in Aikins House to celebrate their 20 year reunion.

The Portal Celebrates 20 Years

For the past 20 years, *The Portal* magazine has been publishing biannual issues to keep our community informed about what is happening in the halls of Balmoral Hall School and in a global respect, what our alumnae are accomplishing around the world. Distributed to the mailboxes of approximately 3,500 constituents, the magazine embodies our pride in the past and our vision for the future. Below, two alumnae share their memories and thoughts of *The Portal* magazine over the years.

When asked what she remembered about the first issue of *The Portal* magazine, **Joy McDiarmid '56** responded, "It was exciting because we didn't have an overall vehicle to reach out into the alumnae ranks and for me the most satisfying part of the magazine was to get alumnae submissions from around the world and to be able to structure them so that they would go into a column that would reflect what alumnae were doing and what they were interested in. That was definitely the highlight for me."

Ditte (Lansky) Cloutier '66, mother of Alexis '98 and Julia '03, had the following memories to share: "The Balmoral Hall Alumnae Association launched its newsletter "MELIORA PETENS" in the spring of 1985. Reunion '87 followed with close to 700 alumnae gathering in Winnipeg at which Head Girl, Susan Rich remarked: "I've seen the BH spirit alive in all of you...none of you really left. For BH never really leaves you. Take this renewed spirit home with you."

And we did.

The Editorial in *The Portal's* first issue in the spring of 1988 declared its purpose "to serve the families, friends and alumnae of Balmoral Hall. We look forward to recording achievements, events—and the dreams—that make up the Balmoral Hall story. It is a story of progress, of change, and of permanence."

And it has.

In this 20th anniversary issue of *The Portal*, let us continue to take pride in the spirit of Balmoral Hall as demonstrated by progress, change and permanence, all exemplifying the school motto: Seeking Better Things."

We hope that our constituents will continue to read and enjoy *The Portal* for many years to come.

Welcoming Back our Alumnae and Welcoming In our Graduates



Emily (Hayes) Marshall RIV '38 enjoys looking through a scrapbook in the Archives.

On April 11, 2008, twenty-six alumnae gathered at Balmoral Hall School for what is becoming an annual tradition at BH. This spring Alumnae Assembly is an opportunity to recognize special reunion years and we were thrilled to recognize alumnae from 1938, 1948, 1958, 1968, 1978, 1988, and 1998 this year.

Our Alumnae Prefect Alex Campbell '08 prepared a special video presentation which highlighted the evolution of the Arts Program at the School throughout those decades and displayed many old photographs from yearbooks.

Another highlight of the Alumnae Assembly was the welcoming of the Class of 2008 to the Alumnae Association. Over the past years, graduates have been receiving a distinctive keychain at this assembly and we would like to thank Maria Reimer '95, Alumnae Association President for making the presentation this year.

Following the assembly, our guests attended an AGM and luncheon in Aikins House. The luncheon allowed for many of the alumnae to catch up with friends and reminisce about their days at Riverbend, Rupert's Land or Balmoral Hall School.

Thank you to everyone who attended. We hope to see you again next spring.



*Front row: Ferne (Lount) Rose RIV '38, Emily (Hayes) Marshall RIV '38
Back Row: Eleanor (Parker) Hodgson RIV '48, Elaine (McInnes) Finnbogason RIV '48,
Betty Anne (Brooking) Boulton RIV '48, Carolyn (Dowler) Graham RIV '48*



Amanda Aldous '02 and Amber Bewza '02 catch up before the Alumnae Assembly.



2nd Annual Lake of the Woods Get-Together a Huge Success

Following in the footsteps of last year's success, Balmoral Hall School hosted its 2nd annual Lake of the Woods get-together at the Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club on July 31, 2008. Together parents, alumnae and friends of BH gathered under sunny skies for a luncheon. It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces as well as some new faces. The luncheon was a casual event that allowed for friends to catch up and see each other. We look forward to making this event an annual occurrence and hope you will be able to join us in 2009.

Thank you to committee members Barb King, Heather Richardson, Leslie (Stovel) Sprange '67 and Maria Reimer '95 for organizing this year's event. Thank you also to our generous sponsors who helped make this event a huge success:



Several BH students volunteered at the event helping to dock boats.



Back: Brenda Zaporzan, Wanda Zajac, Barb King, Louise Nowak
Front: Monica Herzberg, Darcy Zaporzan, Ann Prendiville, Tina Alto



Back: Carolyn (Richardson) Hursh '69, Jane (Ferguson) Simpson '68,
Joan (Rankin) Richardson '69 Front: Nancy Flintoft '68,
Shirley (Rooper) Richardson RIV '41, Dorothy Rankin



Carolyn (Richardson) Hursh '69, Shirley (Rooper) Richardson RIV '41,
Eleanor (Banfield) Macfarlane RIV '44, Jill (Macfarlane) Sutherland '70



Elsbeth (Dempster) Paulin '67, Jeannie (Riley) Senft '67,
Leslie (Stovel) Sprange '67

AN INSIDE LOOK

Seeking Better Things

A Profile by Kristin Shanski '88



Kristin Shanski '88 lives in Vancouver with her two daughters Odette and Celeste and works as a buyer for Farewell Atlantis.

Looking at the first Portal, with myself as a teenager about to graduate, I can't believe 20 years have flown by. Sometimes I'd like to pretend it hasn't! Congratulations to *The Portal* on 20 years of keeping BH alumnae in the loop. When you are 18 and you've been given an incredible education and the tools to continue on with whatever you choose to follow, the world really does feel like it's at your fingertips. But the world of paying bills, career choices, and all the rest of that fun stuff which constitutes 'life' doesn't quite get covered in the textbooks. That's something you have to figure out for yourself.

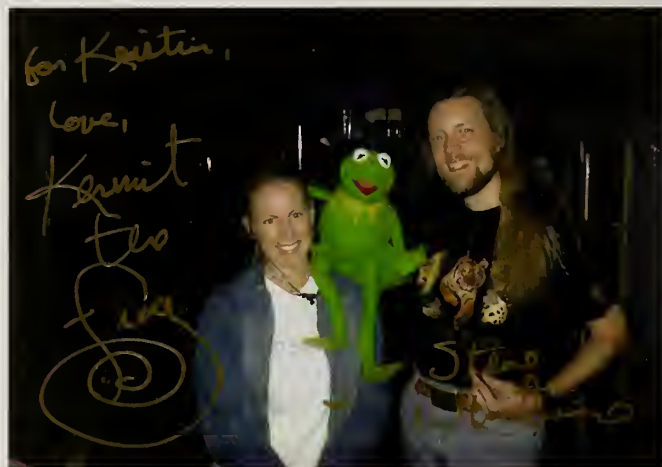
Once I left BH for the real world, I attended Queen's University to obtain a Commerce degree. It was the 'thing' to do. I ended up graduating with a B.A. in Art History and a Bachelor of Commerce. Originally, Art History was just an elective for me. This grew into a genuine interest and I followed the path of arts and culture instead of commerce. After having the good fortune of starting out as a summer intern at the Wadsworth Atheneum in Connecticut, I continued on as a curatorial assistant for the Director. My brilliant highlight there was dropping a half million dollar borrowed painting off a rolling cart. Thankfully, neither the painting, nor my career was damaged.

Although I was offered a job in New York, the call of the West Coast was a little too strong for me to ignore. So, with a chance to work for the Commonwealth Games in 1994 in Victoria, I embarked on my illustrious career as a 'shopper'. Seriously, who knew there were jobs like this? All I can say is that there really is something out there for everyone, and it's wise to always, always keep the doors open. There should be a 'Networking 101' class in all the curriculums. I had no idea that shopping would turn into a 15-year profession in the theatre and movie business.

Sly, Ben, Uma, Brendan, Courtney, Charlize, Whoopi, Harrison, Halle, Sarah, and Arnie, are all names dropped and shopped. Maybe in high school all of those names would have made my head spin, but at the end of my day, it's just a job, and really, they're just people (some more demanding than others). I have to say my all time favourite star, is Kermit, aka. Steve Whitmire. As a member of Ballater House, Kermit's energy and good time vibes, brought me back to my BH years. I even got my old Ballater shirt autographed (thanks to my mom for keeping EVERYTHING!)

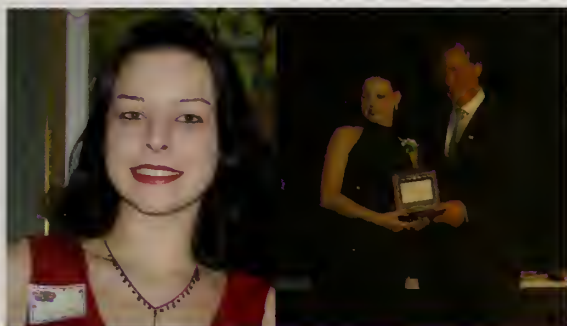
In between hobnobbing with the stars and shopping for a living, I managed to get married, and have two beautiful little girls, Odette and Celeste. There really are no classes to prepare you for that. Actually, my youngest looks very much like the little girl on the first cover of *The Portal*. An abusive relationship and a tough court battle have now become a part of my life. They sure don't teach you about that in school! Things might be more complicated, but I know where I'm going, and what I want to accomplish out of my life. My kids are incredible, and I'm still shopping for the movies. I'm living in Vancouver and loving it. That's life; lots of learning curves.

Balmoral Hall School is an institution that provides an incredible education to young women. Part of that education, and beyond, is learning how to deal with the bad along with the good. Seeking better things...now that's a great lesson.



One Individual Can Make a Difference

A Profile by Carissa Nikkel '02



Carissa Nikkel received the Premier's Volunteer Service Award 2008 from Gary Doer and was presented to Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, in recognition of her leadership and efforts with the Terry Fox Run and the Canadian Diabetes Association Young Adult Advocacy Group. Carissa has been honoured with the Canadian Millennium Scholarship 2002; the Terry Fox Humanitarian Award 2002-2007; and the Dr. and Mrs. Roderick Hunter Scholarship 2006 and the Robert Fletcher Argue Scholarship 2007 from the University of Winnipeg for her academic success, leadership qualities, and community service.

In 2002, I was honoured to graduate from Balmoral Hall School as a "lifer" who attended BH from Kindergarten through Grade 12. During my wonderful years at BH, I was an enthusiastic student who was involved in numerous school activities such as choir, musicals, debating, the science fair, yearbook and as a Prefect during my final year. I remember fondly life at BH as it provided me opportunities to learn and grow in a supportive and caring environment. During my school days, I was also encouraged by my teachers to become an active individual within my community through volunteering. Upon graduation, with the absence of school activities, I reflected on the inspiring words from Mrs. Lee Anderson, Coordinator of the Service Learning Program during my senior years. She encouraged each student to become involved with community service opportunities as a way to enhance our own lives. While studying at the University of Winnipeg in the Integrated Science and Education Degree Program, I have immersed myself as a volunteer in leadership capacities promoting cultural, educational, and community causes in organizations which include the Rozmai Ukrainian Dance Company, the Canadian Diabetes Association and the Terry Fox Run.

Volunteering for the Rozmai Ukrainian Dance Company, a non-profit charitable organization, allows me to assume numerous leadership roles as the Senior Dance Company Representative on the Board of Directors. Ukrainian

dancing is an essential part of my existence allowing me to explore, promote, and proudly celebrate my Ukrainian heritage. Performing with the Rozmai Ukrainian Dance Company for eight years, I have progressed from an apprentice to a senior member in the company where I mentor new dancers by extending my love of the dynamic art form. The Rozmai Ukrainian Dance Company travels to entertain appreciative audiences in countries such as the Ukraine and Peru focusing on humanitarian visits to orphanages, hospitals, and senior residences.

My humanitarian involvement also extends to the diabetic community. Diagnosed with insulin dependent diabetes at the age of seven, I realized that it was important to learn as much as possible about the disease, take control of my life, and demonstrate to others that diabetes is a challenge rather than a disability. Currently, I volunteer as a mentor for others affected by diabetes, volunteer as a canvasser, act as a Residential Campaign Leader in Manitoba, and am a Young Adult Advocate for the Canadian Diabetes Association. As a Young Adult Advocate, I participate in media interviews to tell my story, educate the public about diabetes, and represent Manitoba at the National Conferences. Participating in projects such as the Canadian Diabetes Report 2005, speaking on behalf of the Canadian Diabetes Association at the Legislature in Manitoba and on Parliament Hill in Ottawa has enabled me to raise public awareness on issues related to diabetes and to initiate a better life for people facing the challenges of living with this disease.

While raising funds for cancer research at the Terry Fox Run held at Balmoral Hall School, I became very motivated to "Keep Terry's Dream Alive." Volunteering for the Terry Fox Run Organizing Committee since 2002 and as the Chairperson since 2005 has been another passion since graduating. Last year, the Terry Fox Run became the largest and most successful run as we amalgamated four run sites into one at Assiniboine Park in Winnipeg. Families came to the park, participated in the Opening Ceremonies, cheered on the runners, enjoyed high calibre Manitoba entertainment on the Lyric Stage and participated in Terry's dream. What makes the role of Organizing Committee Chair a particular honour is that the Winnipeg Run Site operates without a budget and on a volunteer basis, so that all funds raised on the day of the run go directly to cancer research. The success of the Terry Fox Run can be attributed to the dedication of our volunteers who believe in Terry's mission and the dream that cancer will be beaten. Our friends and loved ones have and will benefit from cancer research made possible by the Terry Fox Foundation.

(Continued on page 38)

A Profile by Carissa Nikkel '02 (con't.)

During my life, I have experienced exciting academic, leadership, and extracurricular opportunities while facing challenges due to diabetes, a pancreatectomy and celiac disease. These challenges have been instrumental in forming my resilient and optimistic character. Volunteering provides me with opportunities to give back to organizations which have offered support, an opportunity to create better lives for others, and the ability to inspire others to volunteer to better the community. As an active community member, I have been privileged to experience new challenges, make new friendships and grow in understanding and hope for the future. Through volunteering and leadership, I have learned that people can overcome obstacles and one individual can make a difference.

Positive experiences and relationships with my parents, teachers and peers influenced my career choice as an educator. In May of 2009, I will graduate from the University of Winnipeg with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Bachelor of Education. My goal is to encourage and support learners in a community promoting acts of kindness, patience, trust, humility and hope while challenging learners to set goals and grow to the best of their ability with a positive and caring attitude. By learning, creating and sharing new ideas to build an inclusive community, I hope to develop innovative ways to motivate others to be enthusiastic life-long learners and humanitarians. I believe that the inspiring people in the world are ordinary individuals who dream to change the world for the better and inspire others to make a difference in their communities. I encourage each one of you to imagine a better world and help make it happen—we are the future!



Chairperson for the Winnipeg Terry Fox Run Carissa Nikkel, Terry Fox Provincial Director Janice Dankochik, Mayor Sam Katz, and Member of Parliament Steven Fletcher.

AN INSIDE LOOK

We'd Love to Profile You!

Help us continue An Inside Look as a regular feature in *The Portal* by letting us know where life has taken you, or give us a lead on a classmate!

Aimed at highlighting the many achievements of our alumnae, we look forward to sharing many more stories that will inspire the BH community.

Please contact Ginny Lechman '98 in the Alumnae Office at alumnae@balmoralhall.com or (204) 784-1603.

1950s

Carole Ann (Cory) Baron '59, Diana (Elwood) Marley-Clarke '58, Carol (Glesby) Braunstein '58, Rae (Burrell) Jessiman '58

Seen in the photo left to right, Diana, Carol, Carole Ann and Rae reminisce in Palm Desert, California in the winter of 2007 about their days at BH.



Suzanne (Flood) Sinclair '54

"Dear friends; Here we are at Dinny's party in Palm Springs. We are (left to right): **Gail (Allman) Leach '58, Suzanne (Flood) Sinclair '54, Diana (Phipps) Kramer '55, Rae (Burrell) Jessiman '58 and Carol (MacAulay) Taylor '54.**"



1960s

Karen (Jones) Pipes '60

"In the past 48 years since I left BH my life has been full. Too much to include in a first writing but I hope to hear from my roommates from the 4 years I spent at BH. I have 2 daughters, 2 grandchildren and live in Grimsby, Ontario for the summers and Hudson Florida for the winters. I am an avid golfer and my husband of 44 years and I play year-round. I still have wonderful memories of years as a Balmoral Hall girl."

Kathy Neilson '66

Congratulations to Kathy, a Judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in Vancouver who has been appointed a Judge of the Court of Appeal for British Columbia. Madam Justice Neilson received a Master of Arts in 1971 from the University of British Columbia, a Bachelor of Laws from Dalhousie University in 1974 and a Bachelor of Civil Law in 1980 from the University of Oxford. She was admitted to the Bar of British Columbia in 1975. Madam Justice Neilson was a Senior Associate with the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives at the University of Victoria in 1996, a sole practitioner from 1996 to 1997 and an Associate Counsel with Harper Grey Easton until she was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in 1999.

1970s

Susan Roblin '79

"Dear Class of '79: I often think of you. I married in 1985 and have 3 beautiful children, Genevieve, Gordie and Sarah. My eldest is living in Vancouver and is going into 3rd year at UBC this fall. My son is turning 18 this month and has gone to Calgary with friends to seek out his fortune and my youngest, Sarah is off to Nova Scotia for a month long camp to challenge her girlie-ness in a coed outdoor leadership program.

Here's what I've been up to: I have been working at the big running, triathlon, adventure racing store in Toronto. In May I tried my first 6-hour adventure race and placed 3rd with my teammate in 5 hrs 25 minutes (called Storm the Trent—9 km canoe, 6km trail run and a 45 km trail bike in Warsaw, On). I have

lived just outside of Toronto on Lake Simcoe since 1999. I met a wonderful man 5 years ago and blended our families together, his 3 and my 3 and the dog. We bought a house 2 years ago and were looking forward to the future together. Tragically he died last June leaving us all very sad. But together we have managed to heal and are moving forward and it is the strength from my family and experiences from my Balmoral Hall days that have been a great comfort to me. A special thanks to Mrs. Harper, who coached me early on to have faith in my teammates and to trust them to further the game and win, that I couldn't do it all by myself. I have used that advice many times over through the years when being a super mom wasn't working. Love you all and miss our good times."

1980s

Laurie (Pan) Benz '80

Upon my BH graduation, I completed two degrees at the University of Alberta; Mathematics/Physics, and Chemical Engineering (thank you to my BH teachers, Mrs. Sures and Mrs. Sabbatini). I am a full time mom with three children: my daughter, Alexandra, is at Edith Cowan University in the Nursing program; my sons, Zachary (Year 9) and Nathanael (Year 10) are attending a local public senior high school. My husband, Thomas, is Engineering Manager for Icon Engineering. We all recently moved and now live in Perth, Australia. I would love to hear from any of my classmates or BH alumnae living in Australia. My email address can be found on the Alumnae Email Directory.



Ashleigh Banfield '85

Congratulations to Ashleigh Banfield who was a National Award Winner and received the Individual Achievement Award for Outstanding Anchor News or News Magazine at the 2008 Gracie Allen Awards for her work on Court TV.

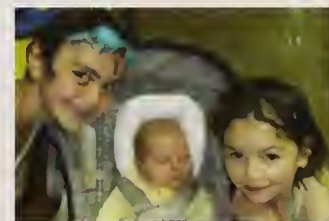
Jennifer Meyers '85

Jennifer and Charles Coombe of Evelth Minnesota were married September 15, 2007 at the ThunderBird Lodge on the shores of Rainy Lake. They have made their home in International Falls Minnesota, where Jennifer operates a McDonald's Restaurant and Chuck is employed with Boise Paper Company.



Angela Hilland '86

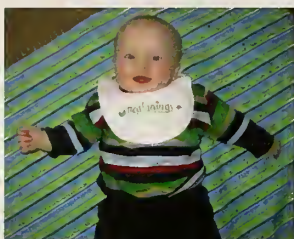
Angela, proud daddy Steve Anderson and big sisters Kiersten (8) and Brooke (4) welcomed Jillian Dawn Hilland Anderson on May 21st, 2008. Weighing in at a healthy 10 lbs 1 oz at birth, Jill is doing well and big sisters are enjoying the smiles from their new sister. Hope all is well with fellow alumnae!



1990s

Kim Lemmy '93

Congratulations to Kim who welcomed a baby boy named Max Goodson into the world on November 12, 2007, weighing 9 pounds, one ounce.



Shauna Labman '95

Congratulations to Shauna who is a Law student at the University of British Columbia on her receipt of a 2008 Trudeau Scholarship awarded by the Trudeau Foundation. Up to 15 Trudeau Scholarships are awarded each year to support research of compelling present-day concern, touching upon one or more of the four themes of the Foundation (Human Rights and Social Justice, Responsible Citizenship, Canada and the World, and Humans and their Natural Environment). Trudeau Scholars are highly gifted individuals who are actively engaged in their fields and expected to become leading national and international figures.

Shauna's research explores the intersection of rights, responsibility and obligation in the absence of a legal scheme for refugee resettlement. The intention of her work is to provide a comprehensive understanding and analysis of refugee resettlement that is lacking in the existing discourse. The ambition is that this will lead to increased refugee

protection through a restructured international resettlement scheme.



Alana Miller '98

Congratulations to Alana Miller who won her third National title in Squash.

2000s

Melanie (Brooker) Coodin '00

Melanie and her husband Michael Coodin (St. Paul's High School '97) are pleased to announce the arrival of their son Hartley Isaac Coodin. Hartley arrived on April 7, 2008 weighing six pounds, twelve ounces. Especially excited is first time Auntie **Samantha Brooker '03**. Melanie hopes all is well with her former classmates!



Sarah (Coates) Roy '00

Congratulations to Sarah who recently married Keith Roy. There were many familiar BH faces in attendance including **Kelsey Mills '01, Anna AbouZeid '01, Simona Ioffe '00, Allison Pigden '04** and Mrs. **Sammons**.



Sarah Briggs '02

Congratulations to Sarah who is graduating from the University of Manitoba Masters in Occupational Therapy program in October 2008. She will be working at the new Acquired Brain Injury facility at the Selkirk Mental Health Centre in Selkirk, Manitoba.

Caroline Monnin '02

Thank you to Caroline Monnin who dedicated one afternoon per week for the 2007-08 school year to volunteer in the school Archives with **Lyn Stephen '57**. Caroline helped to organize photos and documents and her help has been extremely valuable to the Archives room.

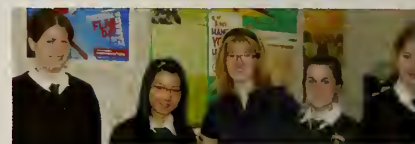


Danielle Weidman '03

Congratulations to Danielle who was accepted into medical school at the University of Manitoba. She will be starting in the fall as the Class of 2012 and couldn't possibly be more excited!

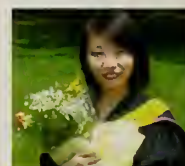
Meghan Fitzpatrick '04

Thank you to Meghan Fitzpatrick who visited the Grade 12 Civilization class and spoke about war and the effects of shell shock. The class really enjoyed hearing from Meghan who has been studying at the University of Winnipeg. She will be leaving for the University of London in September 2008 where she will attend the Institute of Historical Research.



Jasmine Gu '04

Congratulations to Jasmine who graduated with an Honour's Bachelor of Science after completing a double major in Actuarial Science and Statistics, with distinction. She will begin working as an Actuarial Analyst in downtown Toronto in September. Over the summer she plans to take a vacation and plans to visit her parents.



Peace

Betty (Hunt) Baldwin RLS '38



Betty passed away in British Columbia on May 20, 2006. She moved to

Nanaimo in 1946 with her husband and over the years enjoyed many activities including tennis, badminton, golf and boating. Her greatest joy was her family including her husband, children and great-grandchildren.

Marlene (Musgrove) Lansdown RLS '49



Marlene passed away on May 4, 2008 in Ontario. Following High School, she followed both her

parents into the medical profession and was a 1954 graduate of the Winnipeg General Hospital School of Nursing. Prior to her marriage to Ted in 1957 she worked as a stewardess for Trans-Canada Airlines and was a long standing member of the Maple Wings Association. After raising her family, and devoting many years to volunteering for various causes, Marlene went back to nursing in the Haematology Department at Toronto Western Hospital. Her compassion, grace and strong devotion to family will be remembered by all who knew her.

Registration now open for Fall 2008 Classes



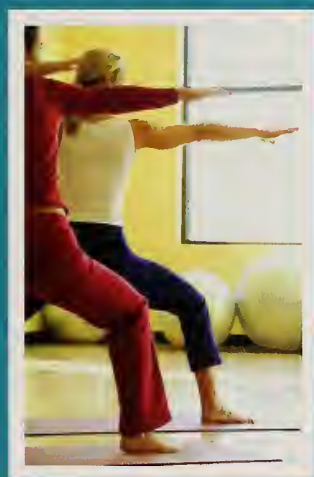
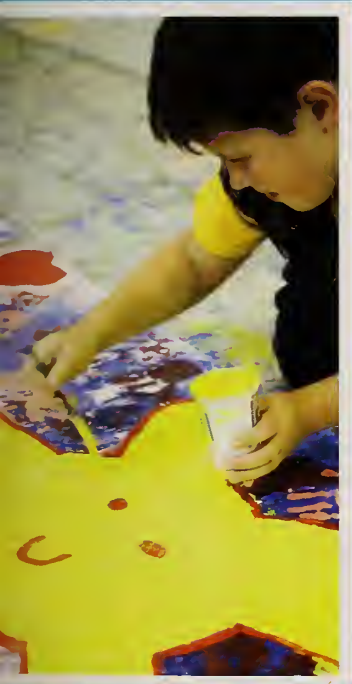
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B

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